



Opticians Association of Ohio EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

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Enhancing the Quality and Growth of Opticians

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January 7, 2002

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The Honorable Michael Powell
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., SW
Washington D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

The Opticians Association of Ohio has a strong interest in supporting technology that enhances educational opportunities for our state's children and professional development for the members of our profession. Our membership, then, is looking forward to the widespread broadband capacity that the merger of satellite TV carriers EchoStar and DIRECTV would bring to Ohio and the nation.

Combining the broadcast spectrum of EchoStar and DIRECTV would give the new EchoStar the capacity to offer nationwide broadband services via satellite, at one uniform price. Right here in Ohio, that means that children in every household would have the opportunity to use the interactive digital broadband services that will be increasingly important to education in the future, regardless of whether their community is served by cable TV. For opticians in Ohio's rural areas, this easy access to broadband could translate into easy access to advanced training.

Given its potential benefits to Ohio, we would appreciate anything you could do to see that the EchoStar/DIRECTV merger gets the prompt approval it deserves from the FCC and Department of Justice.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. King
Executive Director
Opticians Association of Ohio

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