



July 27, 2005

The Honorable John Ensign  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Ensign,

On behalf of Alcatel North America I would like to thank you for introducing the Broadband Investment and Consumer Choice Act. Your leadership in introducing this legislation will help move the U.S. telecommunications sector into the 21<sup>st</sup> century by paving the way for increased broadband deployment, innovation, and competition.

As the world leader in IPTV technology and infrastructure, Alcatel is particularly pleased with your bill's provisions addressing video service franchise reform, which will ensure all competitors seeking to enter the video services market are free to do so now – not years after navigating a complex web of thousands of franchising jurisdictions. The results of video services franchise reform will be increased investment in and deployment of new telecom infrastructure, critical economic growth for manufacturers such as Alcatel, and numerous competitive benefits for consumers.

Alcatel looks forward to working with you and your colleagues to advance telecommunications reform legislation, and franchise reform in particular, during the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hilary Mine". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Hilary Mine  
Senior Vice President

cc: The Honorable John McCain