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**FREEDOMWORKS: ENSIGN BILL BRINGS TELECOM COMPETITION** Dick Armey, Dr. Wayne T. Brough available for comment

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Washington, D.C. -- FreedomWorks cheered the broad legislation introduced today by Senator John Ensign (R-Nev.) to reform and modernize U.S. telecommunications law.

The current federal regulatory regime is badly outdated and reduces competition, investment, and innovation in telecommunications and video services. Senator Ensign's legislation modernizes existing law to encourage economic growth and healthy competition. The bill seeks to promote growth and competition among all technologies and eliminates current disparities between voice, video, and data services. Importantly, the legislation would also address the problem of costly and burdensome franchise laws that currently restrict real competition in the digital television video market. The bill also closes the wireless Section 332 "terms and conditions" loophole that some states have been using to expand the economic regulation of wireless service.

Leader Armey said, "This legislation would substantially update American telecommunications laws for the 21st century. It creates a truly level playing field for both voice and video competitors. It will speed genuine facilities-based competition in both markets. It also provides protections to ensure that the thriving wireless industry does not fall victim to the yoke of regulation."

"FreedomWorks welcomes this bill and commends Senator Ensign for his ongoing work to reform to our antiquated telecommunications laws."

FreedomWorks is running a national campaign in support of telecommunications reform. Both FreedomWorks Co-Chairman and former U.S. House Majority Leader Dick Armey, and Chief Economist Wayne T. Brough, Ph.D. are available for further comment on this legislation.

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FreedomWorks recruits, educates, trains, and mobilizes ordinary Americans to fight for less government, lower taxes, and more freedom. Created on July 22, 2004, by a merger between Citizens for a Sound Economy (CSE) and Empower America, FreedomWorks has more than thirty years of combined organizational experience and over 700,000 members nationwide. Dick Armey and C. Boyden Gray serve as the Co-Chairmen.