

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

## **USTelecom's McCormick Applauds Proposed Senate Legislation Updating U.S. Telecom Laws**

*Background: Today, U.S. Senator John Ensign (R-NV) introduced the Broadband Investment and Consumer Choice Act of 2005 to update U.S. telecom laws.*

*The following statement is from Walter B. McCormick, Jr., President and CEO of USTelecom:*

"We applaud Senator Ensign for his leadership on this issue of critical importance to American consumers and to the nation's economy.

"As wireless, landline, cable and satellite technologies converge, it is time for government-managed competition to be replaced with market-based competition, where consumers can get the products and services they want from the companies they choose.

"Of course, there are additional items we would like to see included in any final legislation that reaches the President's desk. We especially look forward to working with Chairman Stevens to advance a stable future for universal service, and its vital work connecting the country and linking our schools and libraries to the Internet.

"Thanks to Senator Ensign's effort, the legislative process is off to a very strong start today. We thank Senator Ensign for delivering real leadership, vision and momentum to this important effort. We look forward to working with Senator Ensign, his cosponsor, Senator McCain, as well as Chairman Stevens and all members of Congress to advance comprehensive, even-handed reform that can restore U.S. information leadership and enhance so many aspects of our quality of life."