



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

January 12, 2001

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

I hereby tender my resignation as Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission effective January 19, 2001. I do so with great pride in the accomplishments of the Commission during my tenure and with deep gratitude to you for affording me the opportunity to serve the American public.

I feel very privileged that I was able to serve as Chairman of the FCC at a time when communications technologies are so dramatically changing the way the American people live, work, and learn. From the moment Vice President Gore swore me in as Chairman of the FCC, I have devoted my energies to meeting the two principal challenges of the digital age. The first challenge is to fight for a competitive marketplace in which monopoly is ended, innovation and entrepreneurship are cherished, and consumers have competitive choice. The second challenge is to make sure that the benefits of the Information Age reach all Americans – from the business districts to the barrios; from those with every advantage to those with disabilities; from the young to the old; from suburban enclaves to the rural heartland.

I have worked to build on the success that you and Vice President Gore had in passing the Telecommunications Act of 1996. The FCC successfully defended the Act against all manner of legal challenges and proceeded to implement it in a pro-competitive way. Our actions have unleashed unprecedented new investment and opportunity and have become models for the rest of the world.

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton

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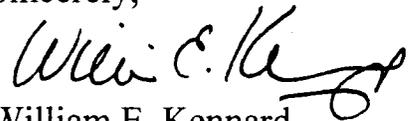
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At the same time, I have fought hard to bridge the Digital Divide and to ensure that the benefits of the digital age reach all Americans. I am enormously proud of the success of the E-rate program, which wired 95% of our Nation's schools; our groundbreaking policies to extend access to people with disabilities; and our commitment to minority employment and opportunity. I will always cherish memories of the trips we took together to such places as East Palo Alto, California, Whiteville, North Carolina, and the Navajo Nation. Each time, I was honored to stand by your side while you so eloquently expressed the promise and potential of information technologies to those who are so often left behind.

Throughout my tenure, the vision, leadership, and courage that you and Vice President Gore have shown has truly inspired me. It has given me strength to fight hard for the interests of the American people every single day.

For the rest of my life, I will be proud to say that I served as an appointee of the Clinton-Gore administration. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Sincerely,



William E. Kennard  
Chairman

cc: John Podesta, Chief of Staff