



December 19, 2005

The Honorable Jim DeMint  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator DeMint:

On behalf of Alcatel, I would like to thank you for introducing the Digital Age Communications Act (DACA). Your legislation will help foster increased debate on telecommunications reform in the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress, and Alcatel congratulates you for your leadership.

Today, formerly distinct communications providers are converging, increasingly offering the competing communications services over unique technology platforms. DACA recognizes that our nation's existing regulatory framework no longer addresses the realities of a converging marketplace, and your legislation would eliminate outmoded legacy regulations that are only serving to inhibit the deployment of the powerful new broadband technologies and services driving convergence. In particular, Alcatel supports DACA's removal of artificial regulatory barriers to entry for powerful new broadband networks that are being used to deliver innovative, competitive video services to American consumers.

Thank you for your leadership in introducing the Digital Age Communications Act. Alcatel looks forward to working with you and your colleagues as telecommunications reform advances in the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paul Kenefick".

Paul Kenefick  
Senior Counsel  
Alcatel North America