

community. From 1925 until 1940, Nathan served on the Jewish Welfare Agency's Board of Directors. In 1972, he served on the Flood Recovery Committee and worked to provide assistance to victims of the Hurricane Agnes flood which devastated much of the Wyoming Valley.

Currently, Mr. Schiowitz is president of the Congregation of Ohav Zedek, and serves on the board of the Jewish Community Center. He is vice president and treasurer of the Jewish Federation of Greater Wilkes-Barre, and is also treasurer of the Jewish Community Center's Trustee Board. He has been named honorary chairman of the United Hebrew Institute and serves on Jewish Family Service Board.

Nathan Schiowitz's leadership does not stop with these positions. He also serves as the treasurer of the Ecumenical Enterprise Corporation and is operations chairman of the Meadows Nursing Home Board. He is also a member of several Masonic organizations including the Irem Temple Mystic Shrine.

For his leadership roles, Nathan has been honored extensively. He has received the Ohav Zedek Endowment Award and was recognized in 1982 by the Jewish Federation of Greater Wilkes-Barre USA Campaign and the United Hebrew Institution 25th Anniversary Endowment Campaign. Nathan was honored with the National Council of Jewish Federations Endowment Acknowledgement in 1986 and received a Community Service Award from the B'nai B'rith in 1988. In 1991, he was honored by Wilkes University at the dedication of the Schiowitz Hall.

With his active participation in so many organizations, Nathan Schiowitz has become an outstanding leader throughout the Wyoming Valley. His capabilities and character have resulted in the innumerable accomplishments and successes. His interaction with others has been responsible for improving the lives of so many people.

Mr. Speaker, Nathan N. Schiowitz is truly deserving of The Arthritis Foundation's 1996 Community Leader of the Year Award. On behalf of his community, I would like to thank him for all that he has done to better the lives of others, and wish him continued success in all that he does on behalf of others.

IN HONOR OF RUTH JERNIGAN

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Ms. Ruth Jernigan. She retired on April 1, 1996, after a total of 44 years of tireless service as a community and legislative advocate.

Ruth began working in 1952 at McDonnell Douglas in Long Beach, CA, where she was employed until 1978. In 1978, she began 18 years of service to the United Auto Workers [UAW] as a UAW international representative, where she has served as a coordinator for the UAW Western Region Political and Legislative Program. Her territory included part of northern California from Fresno to Oregon, the States of Oregon and Washington, and parts of northern Nevada. Her responsibilities included serving as the direct liaison between the UAW and city, county, State, and Federal

elected officials and advocating for legislative issues on behalf of UAW members, their families, and the community.

Throughout her long career, Ruth also served with distinction on several commissions. She was a commissioner for the Department of Water and Power in Los Angeles where her duties included planning and developing new programs for the department. She served as a commissioner on the Los Angeles County Commission for Women. In this capacity, she planned and developed programs to promote women to the highest levels of management in every department of the county of Los Angeles. She also served as a commissioner for Industrial Innovation for the State of California, an organization which provides a forum for debate and policy guidance for the Governor and the legislature on the role of technical innovation in maintaining California's leadership in the Nation's economy.

Ruth was also a founding member of the 100 Black Women Organization of Los Angeles County, a member of NAACP, the Urban League, and the Black Women Forum.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in recognizing Ruth Jernigan for all of her years of dedicated service. I wish her much happiness and success in her future endeavors.

THANK YOU SAM GIBBONS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. Speaker, I rise not to say goodbye but say thank you to a good friend and wonderful legislator who truly cares about the people he represented in Congress. I am speaking of Congressman SAM GIBBONS from Florida who is retiring from the House of representatives. I am sad to see him leave because I know how much he helped and how much he gave of his time to make sure that everyone in his district and in the Nation was heard.

He is a true public servant who worked to better his district in the State of Florida and the Nation as a whole. His 30-plus years of dedicated service to the House of Representatives has not only made the Congress a better place, it has overwhelmingly enhanced all Members of Congress who have had the pleasure to serve with him.

Senior citizens in my district know who SAM GIBBONS is because of his stand this year on Medicare and Medicaid issues. He stood up and made his voice heard for those seniors who could not come to Congress and speak to their own Representatives.

But, in his tenure in Congress he worked diligently to make the voice of the underdog heard. His senior position as ranking member on the Ways and Means Committee gave him the ability to keep in touch with issues that matter to everyone.

Mr. Speaker, I will greatly miss SAM GIBBONS when he leaves at the end of this Congress for all his strength, power, and wisdom. Congress is losing one of its best, an American hero, and I know in some capacity SAM will continue to work for the Nation.

THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS REVOLUTION

HON. JOE BARTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, few pieces of legislation pass this body with the bipartisan support that the Telecommunications Act of 1996 enjoy. Last month I held a telecommunications conference in my district with the goal in mind of letting my constituents of the Sixth District of Texas know how this bill will positively change their lives for the better. I believe it is important that people understand the importance and the magnitude of this legislation. The keynote speech was delivered by the President of the National Cable Television Association, Decker Anstrom. The speech he delivered that day seemed to translate the importance of this bill quite well. I would like to respectfully submit that speech for the RECORD.

REMARKS OF NCTA PRESIDENT DECKER ANSTROM BEFORE CONGRESSMAN JOE BARTON'S CONFERENCE IN DALLAS, TEXAS

Thank you, Congressman Barton for inviting me here today. I know I speak for not just the cable industry, but for the entire communications industry, in expressing my appreciation for your unwavering commitment to telecommunications reform and for your firm determination to make it happen.

As you all probably know, Joe was quite a baseball pitcher, with a hard fastball. Now, in Washington, he's the Nolan Ryan of telecommunications, and will strike out any pointed-head regulator who dares to get in the way of competitive, deregulated markets.

It's great to be back in Texas, which, as the TV commercial says, is just like a "whole another country." Of course, Washington, DC, is its own world: 60 square miles surrounded by reality. But Texas is the real world.

In any event, it's only fitting that you should be focusing on the future of telecommunications, since telecommunications will have such a significant influence on the way we work, learn and live.

Today, you've heard from a wide range of leaders in telecommunications, representing the diverse and competitive nature of the industries. If you reflect on what they've said, there's little doubt that we're entering a period of significant change—and great opportunity.

Indeed, it's not an exaggeration to say that we are entering a revolutionary time in American telecommunications.

What I'd like to try to do this afternoon is to put this revolution a little broader context by asking the question: what forces have come together to shape the telecommunications revolution now underway? And to try to answer the most important question: what will this revolution mean for communities, families and businesses?

So, let me start with the first question: why a revolution now?

I'd point to three major factors: dramatic changes in technology; dramatic changes in consumer demand; and the dramatic change in law and regulation.

First, technology. Now I'm no engineer. In fact, I still can't tell you how TV signals can go through a solid wall—although if it's any comfort to others in my predicament, I've asked senior engineers and they confirmed my guess: it's magic!

But I can tell you that the competitive opportunities you heard about this morning

are being fueled by the 0's and 1's of the digital age, tiny computer chips, and fiber optics.

When we refer to digital technology we're really talking about technology that employs the language of computers—they communicate in digits, 0s and 1s. Until about 1990, we could only use that language to transmit data between computers.

But then, researchers discovered a way to break down TV pictures and sounds into those same 0's and 1's computer language. That meant that a telephone call, an E-Mail message, or a movie could all be transmitted using 0's and 1's—rather than using sound waves. Those 0's and 1's don't take up much room, in the air or inside a wire. The result: we can move lots of information very efficiently and quickly.

Just think, only a few 0's and 1's gives you a chance to see and hear Roseanne perform while getting data on her weight and cholesterol levels at the same time! That's revolutionary—or maybe cause for a revolution!

Meanwhile, those thin little electronic chips that run computers and other gizmos have continued to get tinier and tinier—while their capabilities have improved dramatically and their costs have plunged. And all that, in turn, has made it increasingly cheaper and easier to not only build computers that are smarter and faster, but also the telecommunications networks and electronics that use them.

Further helping speed the development of the telecommunications revolution has been the rapid deployment of fiber optic wires, particularly in the cable industry. Through fiber optic cable, we can move those 0's and 1's at the speed of light. And as we all know, nothing moves faster than the speed of light. Except, of course, for Deion Sanders.

The second major factor driving the telecommunications revolution is the revolution in consumer demand. This is a force that companies ignore at their peril. The plain fact is, of course, that the engineers can design all the widgets they can dream of—but without consumer demand, those widgets will remain on factory loading docks.

Now, I don't propose to review thoroughly the profound changes that have been underway for at least a decade that are reshaping consumers' expectations and desires. But here are three significant economic, social and cultural changes that have affected us all and have helped drive the telecommunications revolution:

One: average Americans appear to have less time for their personal lives and leisure—making them demand more products and services that are more convenient to use, when they want to use them. In particular, we'd like to go to one place for a package of services. That's why we like shopping malls.

Two: continued inflation, coupled with sluggish growth in average wages, has turned most of us into more picky and choosy consumers—we're more price-sensitive and value-conscious when we buy things.

An three: the explosion of personal freedom and independence in our society has made people more discontented with limited choices in the marketplace—we want options in what we buy.

Think about how these forces have already been reflected in telecommunications just during the past 10-15 years:

In 1980, most consumers could choose from just three broadcast networks; today there are more than 100 cable and broadcast networks to choose from.

In the early 1980's, only 7 percent of U.S. households had a personal computer; today 40 percent do so.

In 1980, only 2 percent of U.S. TV households had a VCR; today it's nearly 80 percent.

And hold your hats on this one: In 1985, wireless phones were used by about 340,000 persons; that figure has since skyrocketed to 34 million!

These trends all point to one inescapable conclusion: consumers and businesses no longer will stand still for shoddy service, or poor price/value, or no choices.

If a telecommunications company can step in to address these concerns, they will win customers. With technology now enabling that to happen, that's why telecommunications markets like local phone service and cable, that historically have been characterized by a single provider, will change.

Which brings me to the third major factor fueling the telecommunications revolution: the dramatic change in law and regulation, represented by the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

The telecommunications reform legislation enacted in February replaces a crazy-quilt-patchwork of judicial decisions and laws and regulations that limited competition and hampered telecommunications' firms development with a new deregulated policy that will stimulate growth and development.

It's hard to believe, but the enactment of this legislation marked the first fundamental rewrite of federal communications laws in some 60 years. Not since 1934! Think about how very long ago that was. So long ago that the Dallas Cowboys were known only as people who rode horses and worked with cattle. So long ago that the New York Yankees were "America's team."

As you all know, the new law lifts state and local legal barriers to competition in telecommunications. It's designed to make sure this competition is sustained—and kept on a level playing field—by requiring that local phone monopolies open their networks to competitors.

And once the local phone monopolies do show that they've opened their networks to competitors, they get the green light to enter the long distance market. And, of direct interest those of us in the cable industry, the second the legislation was signed by the President into law, telephone companies got the OK to offer video programming directly to their customers—as well as to manufacture telecommunications equipment and to continue to offer information services.

In short—everyone's market has been opened to competition.

The bottom line: telecommunications law has finally caught up with technology and consumer demand.

Now that the new telecommunications reform law has stripped away major competitive barriers, the path is clear for the digital revolution to pick up real steam. What will that mean for consumers and businesses? Fundamentally, it means competition and choices. But things may be confused and messy for a few years.

Clearly, now that telecommunications reform is fact, we can expect competition to take off in many places. Today's local phone monopolies, including the dominant Regional Bell Companies, will face competition for the first time—from cable companies, long distance companies, and other Bell companies.

For example, here in Texas, cable company Time Warner recently received approval from the state public utilities commission to offer local phone service. Teleport, which is fully owned by cable companies, has also received a green light to provide local phone services in Dallas.

In the long distance market, Bell companies will offer new competition to long distance companies like AT&T, MCI, and Sprint.

The television marketplace will become more competitive, too. The cable industry

will continue to face fast-growing competition from direct broadcast satellite (DBS) firms, microwave-based cable systems (MMDS), and, of course, from telephone companies who will offer cable service. In Richardson, SBC Communications already is providing cable service in competition with the cable company, TCI.

But if I can add a parochial note here: Like those tough football linebackers from small Texas towns, we cable guys may be smaller than the bigger kids from Dallas and Houston, but we're faster and leaner—and we'll give the telephone companies a run for their money as we move to compete with them for phone service.

This new competition won't come easily. To construct new facilities, develop and market new services and continue to strengthen core businesses will cost telecommunications companies tens of billions of dollars in the next decade. And companies will need to acquire new marketing and technical expertise.

For many, the best route for entering new markets will be to seek out allies who have that missing ingredient necessary for competitive leadership—the right experience, the right technology, the right programming, or the right marketing know-how needed to obtain that prized competitive edge, not to mention the access to more capital!

So with the competition growing fiercer, expect all sorts of arrangements, alliances and mergers as companies battle for the hearts and minds of consumers and businesses. In some cases, it may involve consolidation within one sector, such as the just-announced merger between the two Bell companies, PacTel and SBC Communications. In other cases, it may involve mergers across sectors, such as the recently announced merger between phone giant U.S. West and Continental Cablevision.

There will also be partnerships and ventures across industry lines to help each company compete in new markets. Sprint, for example now has a partnership with three leading cable companies, TCI, Cox and Comcast, to provide local phone services, in combination with Sprint's long distance service.

Cooperative arrangements won't be limited to the biggest companies, however. For example, cable company TLCA, based in Tyler, Texas, is now reselling long distance phone services at competitive rates through an alliance with a small independent telephone company in Texas, Lufkin Conroe Telecommunications.

At first blush, all these mergers and alliances may seem to be anti-competitive. After all, aren't big companies simply getting bigger? Yes—but: keep your eye on the end-game. It's not to protect business-as-usual. Rather, these alliances are designed to build up the muscle needed for the competitive clashes ahead.

The ultimate goal of all these companies will be to become consumers' and businesses' first choice for one-stop shopping for voice, video and data services. And consumers and businesses will win—with firms offering convenient, often discounted packages of telecommunications services we can't even imagine today.

This competition won't be pretty. In the next few years you'll see plenty of confusion as consumers try to make heads or tails out of what's going on. We'll need a scorecard to know who's offering what—at what prices.

And be ready to have your dinner hour interrupted and your mailbox stuffed. We will undoubtedly be saturated by high-octane marketing campaigns out to sign up customers for new packages of communications services. Remember when AT&T began to face heated competition from MCI and Sprint? A once quiet marketplace suddenly

turned into the telecommunications industry's equivalent of the New Hampshire primary—with TV ads and mail solicitations from the long distance competitors seemingly appearing almost daily. That may be tame to the marketing that we will see for all communications services!

Consumers may find it frustrating, at first, to try to sort out all the dramatic changes coming in this industry. But the telecommunications revolution, by providing competition and choices, will make consumers the ultimate winner. This revolution will have particular meaning in business, education, and technology.

Business, big and small, will benefit from increased efficiencies and worker productivity provided by enhanced communications services. New wireless paging systems and other communications devices will make business traveling easier and more productive. Video conferencing will reduce the need for it. Many will be increasingly able to work from home. And, lower local and long distance phone rates brought on by competition will help everyone's bottom line.

In education, through high-speed Internet access, students will increasingly have the means to connect, at the speed of light, to the world's best libraries—such as the Library of Congress—and top research centers. Television will make long-distance learning a reality. Quite simply, the telecommunications revolution will enable us to bring the world into every classroom.

Finally, the digital revolution will not just provide consumers with far more choices in the home, but also help give them more control over how their families use those services. In our mass culture, families increasingly want—and need—to be able to control what their children experience. Through new viewer discretion technologies such as the v-chip, and other digital applications, and the

new TV ratings system that cable and the broadcasters will introduce by early 1997, parents will have more tools to make more informed, smarter decisions about what their children see on TV and use on the Internet.

In conclusion, I want to again thank Congressman Barton for his leadership that made telecommunications reform law—and thereby created a deregulated marketplace that will allow the telecommunications revolution to flourish.

Like Texas, this revolution will be limited only by our imaginations.

THE LEWIS AND CLARK RURAL WATER SYSTEM

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, before me is a copy of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 107 as adopted on April 24, 1996, by the Iowa 76th General Assembly. It is a concurrent resolution urging the U.S. Congress to authorize construction of the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System. I ask that the State assembly's resolution concerning this important project be entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 107

(By Kibbie and Rensink)

A Concurrent Resolution urging the United States Congress to authorize construction of the Lewis and Clark rural water system.

Whereas, the Lewis and Clark rural water system was envisioned and organized to supply a safe and adequate drinking water supply to 180,000 residents of northwestern Iowa,

southeastern South Dakota, and southwestern Minnesota; and

Whereas, five communities and two rural water systems in northwest Iowa, representing 24,000 residents of Iowa, joined the Lewis and Clark rural water system in hope of solving existing problems relating to inadequate supplies and poor quality of drinking water; and

Whereas, the 1993 Session of the Iowa General Assembly enacted legislation authorizing federal, state, and local governments to cooperate in managing and administering rural water districts; and

Whereas, federal legislation authorizing construction of the Lewis and Clark rural water system and federal, state, and local government cost-sharing to assist project sponsors in building the project has been introduced in the United States Congress; Now therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring, That the 1996 Session of the Iowa General Assembly is committed to supporting the Lewis and Clark rural water system and urges congressional approval of federal legislation authorizing the construction of the Lewis and Clark rural water system.

Be it further resolved, That copies of this resolution be sent by the Secretary of the Senate to the members of Iowa's congressional delegation.

LEONARD L. BOSWELL,
President of the Senate.

RON J. CORBETT,
Speaker of the House.

I hereby certify that this Resolution originated in the Senate and is known as Senate Concurrent Resolution 107, Seventy-sixth General Assembly.

JOHN F. DWYER,
Secretary of the Senate.