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**COMPTTEL Applauds Defining Precedent for IP Interconnection
to Benefit Competition and Consumers in Michigan**

PSC Decision Requiring AT&T to File IP Interconnection Agreement with Sprint

LAS VEGAS – COMPTTEL, the leading trade association for the competitive communications industry, today applauded the Michigan Public Service Commission (PSC) for requiring AT&T to file its interconnection agreement with Sprint. Following an earlier arbitration agreement, the PSC required that AT&T offer IP interconnection to Sprint in an interconnection agreement to be filed with the state. In today's order, the PSC further upholds its decision in response to AT&T not filing an agreement that covered the provision of IP interconnection.

The following statement can be attributed to Chip Pickering, COMPTTEL's CEO:

"Today the Michigan PSC took an important step with its requirement of AT&T to file its IP interconnection agreement with Sprint. The PSC's strong action is a defining moment as the communications industry transitions to IP technology, and sets a precedent for other states to follow.

This week, while we have been here at COMPTTEL PLUS, we have heard a variety of carriers underscore that their primary goal is to best serve their customers. By requiring IP interconnection agreements to be publicly filed and enabling others to simply opt into them, the Michigan PSC is fulfilling its role under the Telecom Act, making it easier for carriers to focus on their core business of serving consumers and ensuring that AT&T cannot discriminate in the marketplace. Simplifying and speeding the process of interconnection will save carriers time and money, and ultimately benefit consumers.

We commend the Michigan commission for bravely standing up for consumers and the principles underlying competition that were set forth in the Act."

About COMPTTEL

Based in Washington, D.C., COMPTTEL is the leading industry association representing competitive communications service providers and their supplier partners. COMPTTEL members are entrepreneurial companies driving technological innovation and creating economic growth through competitive voice, video, and data offerings and the development and deployment of next-generation, IP-based networks and services. COMPTTEL advances its members' interests through trade shows, networking, education, and policy advocacy before Congress, the Federal Communications Commission and

the courts. COMPTEL works to ensure that competitive communications providers can continue to offer lower prices, better service, and greater innovation to consumers. For more information, visit www.comptel.org.