



For Immediate Release

CONTACT: Jeff Sharp, jeff@themanitou.co, (202) 285 7040

INCOMPAS: AT&T-Time Warner is the Merger No One Wants, But Everyone Pays For

WASHINGTON, D.C. (June 12, 2018) – Today, Judge Richard Leon announced his decision in the AT&T-Time Warner proceeding. In a stunning blow to competition and consumers, the merger was allowed to proceed without any of the conditions recommended by the Department of Justice.

In response, Chip Pickering, CEO of INCOMPAS, released the following statement:

“AT&T is getting the merger no one wants, but everyone will pay for. While the world focused on the merger, AT&T has been lobbying the FCC to cut off broadband competition in rural America and raise prices on consumers, small businesses and schools.

“Without question, a bigger, more powerful AT&T in a world absent net neutrality is a very, very dangerous proposition for consumers and content creators who have thrived during the streaming revolution. Now is the time for Congress to listen to the 80 percent of Americans who are demanding that a free and open internet become the law of the land. With a broadband monopoly in one hand, and paid prioritization in the other, AT&T poses a threat to fiber deployment and the streaming revolution.

“We believe net neutrality should have been part of the DOJ’s case, and we believe critical merger information from the ISP’s should be included in our court challenge to the FCC’s net neutrality repeal.

“We want to commend Makan Delrahim and the Department of Justice for their efforts. We encourage them to keep fighting, and continue applying a competition test to markets, as they did in the Century Link-Level 3 merger, to ensure consumers have more choices in the marketplace.”

****Chip Pickering is available for comment****

About INCOMPAS:

INCOMPAS, the internet and competitive networks association, is the leading trade group advocating for competition policy across all networks. INCOMPAS represents Internet, streaming, communications and technology companies large and small, advocating for laws and policies that promote competition, innovation and economic development. Learn more at www.incompas.org or follow us on Twitter: @INCOMPAS @ChipPickering