

Church when it was designated a national shrine in 1950. I would like to ask my colleagues to rise and join me once again in paying tribute to Christ Church on the glorious occasion of its 300th anniversary.

COMMEMORATING THE END OF  
WORLD WAR II

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 11, 1995*

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to participate in today's joint meeting of Congress to honor World War II veterans, their families, and those who served on the home front.

In recent years Washington has witnessed the construction of a host of memorials: We have honored the veterans of the Vietnam war. We have honored the Korean war veterans. We have honored the Navy with an impressive memorial on Pennsylvania Avenue. It is proper that we honored those veterans for their sacrifices.

But we have not properly honored the veterans of World War II with a permanent memorial here in the Nation's Capital. As a result, World War II veterans may feel they have not been sufficiently recognized. But that oversight will be corrected. We are finally preparing to construct a memorial to the veterans of World War II. I commend those who have pushed so hard to see this approved.

Today's joint meeting is one in a series of events designed to commemorate the end of World War II and honor the contributions made by those who served in that effort. I wish to add my voice of appreciation.

Without any doubt, World War II and its struggle against totalitarianism is the defining event of our time. It continues to reverberate 50 years later, overshadowing all of the events that have occurred since 1945. It will shape our history and our attitudes into the next century.

I am impressed by the many ways World War II has shaped the world we live in today: The global struggle of the past half century—the cold war—was the direct result of World War II. Today, we still live in the ideological shadow of the cold war: the post-cold-war era.

The great powers of today emerged victorious from World War II: Not just the United States, which became the world's most powerful Nation, with the strongest economy—but also France, Britain, and Russia. Other powers—Germany and Japan—emerged from the war's ashes of the war.

World War II laid the groundwork for the longest economic boom in world history. It also ushered in the atomic age.

The boundaries of Europe and Asia that were drawn in the aftermath of World War II remain, with few exceptions.

Many of our political leaders during the last 50 years were tested in World War II, from Dwight Eisenhower to Jack Kennedy to George Bush.

World War II also has affected our life in more subtle ways. A number of technological advances we take for granted today are the direct result of World War II: jet engines, penicillin, radar, synthetic rubber, even computers, just to name a few.

World War II also had a profound impact on American society and culture. Our higher education system was radically altered by the millions of veterans who attended college on the GI bill. Women emerged as a power in their own right as a result of World War II, and have become a crucial force in our workplace. Our suburbs—now the dominant lifestyle in America—were first created for returning veterans. The baby boom generation that dominates much of American culture is the direct result of World War II.

Today, as we remember the end of World War II, let us honor the sacrifices made by our World War II veterans. Let us guard the freedoms they fought to protect. And let us never forget that the political pluralism and economic prosperity that we see around the world are the legacy of World War II and those who fought and died in that war.

H.R. 1555—TELECOMMUNICATIONS

HON. MIKE WARD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 11, 1995*

Mr. WARD. Mr. Speaker, in early August this House passed a historic bill to update this Nation's telecommunications laws. H.R. 1555 will change the status quo and allow for full and fair competition in local service, cable, and long distance. Consumers across America will benefit from the new jobs and economic benefits that will be created by this important bill.

While the long distance companies opposed H.R. 1555, there are still a number of advantages they retain if this bill becomes law. I would like to include in the RECORD the attached paper which outlines these advantages.

WHY BELL COMPANIES NEED FEDERAL  
LEGISLATION

The states are opening the Bell companies markets to competition, without Federal legislation. Currently over 60% of all local telephone lines are in states that allow local competition. By year end 1995 it is expected that almost 80% of all local telephone lines will be subject to competition.

Nevertheless, a Federal Court-approved AT&T consent decree absolutely bars Bell companies from offering interLATA services or manufacturing, and seriously interferes with their information services and other offerings (e.g., customer premises equipment, cellular and PCS).

This results in government-mandated advantage to long distance companies that can offer one-stop shopping of local, long distance and information services.

The Bell companies have only two avenues for relief—Congress and the courts. The triennial review process promised by the Department of Justice to lift the decree prohibitions has broken down. The waiver process in the AT&T consent decree has broken down.

Even when it works, the Court process (e.g., information services relief), including appellate review, takes years, creates uncertainty, delays relief, and stifles real competition.

AT&T reneged on its commitment to support Bell companies efforts to lift the "line of business" restrictions in the Decree, restrictions that AT&T said it did not support.

AT&T and others continue to use the decree successfully to limit competition in their long distance markets.

With increasing competition from new local exchange carriers, cellular providers and PCS, the Bell companies will increasingly be harmed by the inability to offer the same one-stop shopping alternatives that long distance companies can offer.

Congress should reestablish itself as the principal telecommunications policy maker and open all markets to competition as soon as possible and at the same time.

WHY LONG DISTANCE CARRIERS CAN AFFORD TO  
KILL FEDERAL LEGISLATION

There are no Federal restrictions uniquely applied to long distance companies affecting their ability to enter any other telecommunications market including the local exchange market, the intraLATA toll market, the cable TV market, or manufacturing.

Virtually all States already permit intraLATA toll competition, 29 States have opened and 14 others are considering opening the local exchange to competition.

Currently over 60% of all local telephone lines are in states that allow local telephone competition.

By year end almost 80% of all local telephone lines are expected to be subject to competition.

States commissions have years of experience working with carriers on interconnection of local networks, e.g., cellular to local, intraLATA toll to local, and local to local networks, so no new Federal program is required.

Issues of interconnecting local to interstate networks have largely been resolved through FCC-mandated equal access and interconnection rules.

The FCC already has fully adequate powers over interconnection in the communications Act.

Long distance carriers have already announced that they are investing billions of dollars in local networks and services in virtually every major metropolitan market as soon as possible, showing their confidence in existing processes.

Long distance carriers also have access to alternatives to the local loop.

Cellular services through ownership (e.g., ATT/McCaw) or simple resale (e.g., MCI's recently announced strategy).

Personal Communications Services: AT&T spent over \$1.68B in 21 MTAs, and will spend an estimated additional \$2.5B to build out those properties; Sprint spent \$2.1B in 29 MTAs. Cable loops to over 70% of households and businesses in the US.

Long distance carriers have been able to use consent decree restrictions to keep the Bell companies from competing with them. As a result, the long distance companies have been able to raise their rates 5 times and 20% in the last 4 years, while the Bell companies lowered their access charges to those long distance companies 7 times and 40% during the same period.

In other words, long distance companies win if there is no Federal legislation. They keep their markets closed to Bell company competition, maintain oligopoly profits for the Big Three, gain unrestrained access to the Bell companies' markets, and can offer one-stop shopping while the Bell companies cannot.

KEY ADVANTAGES RETAINED BY LONG DISTANCE  
CARRIERS UNDER REVISED H.R. 1555

LONG DISTANCE CARRIERS MAY ENTER THE  
LOCAL TELEPHONE EXCHANGE MARKET IMMEDIATELY

Bell Companies Cannot Enter the Long Distance Market Until:

They Face Facilities-based Competition in Residence and Business Markets.

They Comply with Checklist.