## ORIGINAL

August 26, 1998

## Study on Pair Rates (No. 980000 A-SP) <br> Division of Records \& Reporting <br> 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard <br> Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Gentlemen:
I receive this address in BellSouth's telephone bill mail out a couple of days ago and have been quite dismayed at what happened to me today.

On August 14, 1998, I called BellSouth to tell then to drop AT \& T as my long distance carrier, as I heard on Nightly Business Report that they were going to start charging $\$ 3.00$ per month for long distance customers. When I paid my BellSouth bill a couple of days ago, I deducted $\$ 1.88$ they (AT $\& T$ ) put on my bill as a connection charge when I didn't even use my long distance. I also called AT $\& T$ to ask them to deduct this amount and they said something about blocking mv telephone number. I hardly over call long distance and informed BellSouth that I would use 10-10-321 if I needed to call long distance. The previous month for AT \& T , I was charged. 95 for the connectivity charge calling long distance for Father's Day.

I went to use my telephone today at 6:00 PM, and my phones did not work; no light, no dial tone, no nothing. I had to go out and use another phone to call Bellisouth to tell them my phone was not working. I do not see how AT \& T has the right to block my local service or any service. I assume they are BellSouth's lines; and I am quite upset that this is happening.
ACK If someone is not calling long distance, (the initiator), there ARA 1 shouldn't be any charges on your bill for long distance and your local carrier (Bellsouth) shouldn't hold you hostage for the charges a long distance carrier puts on your bill (interest on the CAT $\frac{1}{1}$ charges included). You should also be able to receive long disCMU I tance calls on your telephone. I would assume BellSouth could and CTR

