

From: Greg McGuinness
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/2/02 5:51pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement.

Please put an end to the madness of this case. It is very clear to me that the Attorney Generals for the states that have not yet settled are doing so for political reasons. They are enjoying their time in the sun and are trying to get a "tobacco" settlement fee from Microsoft to justify to their constituents that they are working hard. It's also clear that they must not be spending much time in their own state since they're constantly on television from Washington, D.C. This is just a ploy by the State AG's to stay in the limelight long enough to get free publicity for their run for governor.

I've yet to hear any plausible or measurable way that consumers have been harmed except quotes from competitors (Oracle, Sun, AOL, and IBM) that things would have been so much better. Well, it seems better for the competitors, not consumers. Microsoft has done a great job bringing a quality product that consumers want at a reasonable price. Having worked in Information Technology for almost 20 years, I remember the days when IBM charged \$495 for DOS, Lotus charged \$495 for 1-2-3, and Word Perfect charged \$495 for it's product. I can now get a great machine, preloaded with Windows, a Word Processor, some games, AOL, and a slew of other things from companies other than Microsoft, for under \$1000.

Please don't punish a company for giving consumers what they want and don't listen to the whiners who complain about Microsoft's tactics. They play fair and square and have negotiated a fair settlement for everyone. Get more from the Web. FREE MSN Explorer download : <http://explorer.msn.com>