From: Lawrence W Mahar
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/27/02 7:22pm
Subject: Microsoft settlement offer

I agree with the Senior Coalition position shown below that the government should accept the Microsoft offer. - Larry Mahar, 945 Murray Road, Middle Grove, Ny 12850, phone & FAX 518-587-6781.

URGENT ACTION ALERT
Your immediate response is needed!

Three years ago, the U.S. Department of Justice charged Microsoft with having engaged in anti-competitive behavior based on allegations by its top competitors. Many have argued that Microsoft was singled out by its jealous competitors and sympathetic government bureaucrats because of its success and a desire to see it punished.

The Justice Department is in the final stages of deliberating on the proposed Microsoft settlement to decide whether to accept the settlement or to litigate it further. The Seniors Coalition strongly believes that the proposed settlement offers a reasonable compromise that will enhance the ability of seniors and all Americans to access the internet and use innovative software products to make their computer experience easier and more enjoyable.

Unfortunately, a few of Microsoft's competitors have continued their aggressive lobbying campaign to undermine the settlement negotiated with the federal government and nine states. The settlement itself is tough on Microsoft, but is a fair outcome for all parties -- particularly senior consumers. Most important, this settlement will have a very positive impact on the American economy and will help pull us from the recession we have experienced over the past year.

You can offer your opinion to the Justice Department to counter the self-serving and punitive lobbying effort of Microsoft's competitors. Current law (known as the Tunney Act) allows public comment on the proposed settlement up until January 28th. The U.S. District Court will then decide whether the settlement is in the "public interest." Please send your strong message to the Justice Department that consumer interests have been well served, and the time to end this costly and damaging litigation has come.

Dragging out this legal battle further will only benefit a few wealthy competitors, lawyers, and special interest big-wigs. Not one new product that helps consumers will be brought to the marketplace.

YOUR VOICE IS VERY IMPORTANT AND TIME IS VERY SHORT.

Only comments received by January 28th will be included in the public record and submitted to the Court for its consideration. Consumers need to win this battle, so please send your comments immediately to the Justice Department -- either by email or by fax -- and do it before January 28th.

Don't let these special interests defeat the public interest.

Email: microsoft.atr@usdoj.gov . In the Subject line of the e-mail,type "Microsoft Settlement."

Fax: 1-202-307-1454 or 1-202-616-9937

To find out more about the settlement and the Tunney Act comment period, go to the Department of Justice Website at:
http://www.usdoj.gov/atr/cases/ms-settle.htm

Raising your voice now on this issue really will have an impact.

Thank you for your time.

Mary M. Martin
Chairman and Executive Director
The Seniors Coalition

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http://www.seniorcongress.org/listmanager/subscription.pl

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