

FAX

Date: Thursday, January 17, 2002

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Republican Assembly of Illinois

Thomas F. Roeser – Founder ★ James A. Leahy – Executive Director

January 15, 2002

Renata Hesse
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Ms. Hesse:

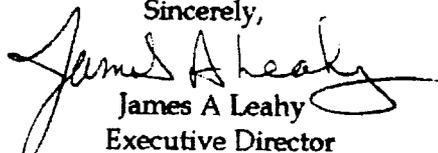
My name is James Leahy and I am the Executive Director of the Republican Assembly of Illinois (RAI), which is a grassroots organization dedicated to the principals of smaller government, local control and lower taxation. RAI has been vocal in its encouragement of ending the Microsoft anti-trust case. I am writing you today to provide you some of the reasons why we have called for an end to this case in the past.

In November of 2001 it was reported that Microsoft had reached a proposed settlement of the case with the US Department of Justice. Here in Illinois we were grateful to hear this case may be coming to an end. We were further encouraged to know that our own Attorney General Jim Ryan had decided to end years of legal wrangling with Microsoft and accept the settlement. This decision will bring an end to a case that has been very costly to the American taxpayer and the United States economy.

Not only have millions of taxpayers dollars been spent on this case, the stock market has been greatly affected. One can see the decline of the tech stocks is closely linked to when the government took aim at Microsoft. This settlement will provide the technology industry, which performed so well throughout much of the 1990s, with the ability to get back to business without fear of more government overregulation and interference.

It is clear that to reach this settlement all parties involved have worked together to resolve this case for the good of the tech industry and the nation's economy. It is my hope that the support of Judge Kollar Kotelly will be forthcoming.

Sincerely,


James A Leahy
Executive Director
Republican Assembly of Illinois

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