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Statehouse: (515) 281-3371



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The Senate
STATE OF IOWA
Seventy-eighth General Assembly
STATEHOUSE
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Facsimile Cover Sheet

Date: 1-23-02

To: Renata B. Hesse

Company: U.S. Dept. of Justice

Facsimile Number: 1-202-307 1454

From: Jeff Lamberti

Number of Pages: 3 (Including Cover Sheet)
 Original will be mailed
 Original will not be mailed

Message:

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January 23, 2002

Ms. Renata B. Hesse
Antitrust Division
U. S. Department of Justice
601 D Street, N. W., Suite 1200
Washington, D. C. 20530-0001

Dear Ms. Hesse:

As Chair of the Iowa Senate Appropriations Committee, I am required to pay particular attention to current economic conditions. Like many other states, Iowa is struggling with a weak economy. As a result, we are facing significant budget shortfalls, and cuts in critical services.

Despite these challenges, we are optimistic about the future. We believe that the solution to our budget woes is a growing economy. Because of this, we are pushing an aggressive growth agenda this legislative session.

That is why I am encouraging the court to accept the strong but fair settlement you and your colleagues have negotiated in the Microsoft antitrust case. I believe the settlement will have a positive affect on the economy.

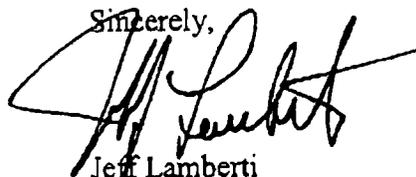
In fact, we saw evidence of this, as the markets rose when the news of a possible settlement broke some time ago.

I believe this matter has gone unresolved for far too long. I believe a settlement will be positive news for the over 600 software businesses and related enterprises located in Iowa.

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As an attorney, I have followed this matter with interest, and I support the Department and the nine Attorneys General in a settlement of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Lamberti". The signature is stylized with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jeff Lamberti
State Senator

JL/ae