



STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL
ROBERT A. BUTTERWORTH

January 13, 2000

Ms. Laura Mazzarella
Division of Financial Practices
Federal Trade Commission
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20580

Dear Ms. Mazzarella:

I write to enthusiastically support the application of James E. Tierney to serve on the Advisory Committee on Online Access and Security.

It has been my pleasure to work closely with Mr. Tierney throughout the past decade, and have repeatedly looked to him for insight and wisdom into a wide range of issues, particularly in the area of consumer protection. When I became Florida's Attorney General in 1987, Mr. Tierney had already established himself as a true leader as Attorney General of Maine. My reliance on his guidance did not end when he left office in 1990, and continues to this day.

I know Mr. Tierney to be a dedicated advocate for consumers, particularly those affected by recent developments in online commerce and communications. He was one of the earliest proponents of a system to line the various state attorneys general by email, and this office has sought his advice as we developed our own enforcement policies related to the Internet and electronic commerce. He has also worked with private companies establishing their own online presence, always keeping in mind the policy issues at stake in this ever-changing marketplace of ideas, products and services.

Jim Tierney's advice is consistently thoughtful and helpful, and always takes into account the real-world ramifications of government policy on the individual. His grasp of these issues would make him be an indispensable member of the Advisory Committee, and I fully support his appointment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert A. Butterworth".

Robert A. Butterworth
Attorney General

RAB/pdm