

GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Commissioners:
Bobby Baker, Chairman
Dave Baker
Bob Durden
Lauren "Bubba" McDonald, Jr.
Stan Wise

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DAVE BAKER RESIGNS PSC POST FOR PRIVATE SECTOR

ATLANTA – Georgia Public Service Commissioner Dave Baker today announced his intention not to seek another term and will resign his post effective December 1, 1998. Baker will return to the private sector as Vice President of Legal and Regulatory Affairs for MindSpring Enterprises, Inc, an Atlanta based Internet Service Provider not regulated by the PSC.

Since his 1994 election to a seat on the panel that regulates utilities and transportation matters, Baker has gained national recognition as a leading advocate of telecommunications competition. Baker has dedicated much of his time to facilitating competition in the local phone market and reviewing BellSouth's petition to enter the long distance market. Last year he was chosen as one of four state commissioners nationwide to serve on the Federal-State Universal Service Joint Board. In this capacity, Baker works directly with the members of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to help ensure that telephone rates, particularly in rural areas, remain reasonable during the transition to telephone service competition. One of *Georgia Trend's* Leaders in Their Field for 1996, Baker holds a law degree from Washington & Lee University and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Johns Hopkins University.

"It has been an honor to serve the citizens of Georgia. Over the past four years I have worked to fulfil two ongoing promises. First, to ensure that consumers get the best possible telecommunications, gas and electric service at the best possible rates, and second, to promote business growth and economic development throughout all of Georgia," said Baker.

Baker will help lead MindSpring's efforts to expand into new competitive markets and provide consumers with alternatives in high-speed access to the Internet. MindSpring is an Internet Service Provider focused on delivering outstanding service and support to its customers. MindSpring's dial-up subscribers can browse the World Wide Web, send electronic mail, participate in informative online chats and access over 20,000 newsgroups. MindSpring offers local Internet service in more than 375 locations throughout the United States.

Baker's seat is not up for election until 2000. Governor Zell Miller will decide whether to defer to Governor-elect Roy Barnes to appoint a successor to serve the remainder of the term. Under legislation passed last session by the General Assembly, candidates qualifying for the district 3 post in 2000 must reside in Fulton, DeKalb or Clayton County.

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