With all of the competition from traditional sources (ie. AM/FM radio), the internet (on which you can listen to your favorite radio station from your computer as well), not to mention HD radio, satellite radio is just one more consumer choice. The XM/Sirius radio merger will make satellite radio more competitive in a market full of choices. The fact is they need to merge so we can continue to receive unique programming choices not currently available. They can't seem to make money individually meaning that there isn't the market you were anticipating which would've made your previous condition of not merging viable. That being the case, they may be able to survive if they have a chance to merge. Imagine all of those radios we paid extra bucks for one of the other of these services gone silent because neither one could survive on its own. Think about the money consumers wasted because of that possible eventuality.