



MALHEUR COUNTY

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COUNTY COURT

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FCC Mailroom

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May 1, 2018

The Honorable Greg Walden
2185 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Sent via email: nick.strader@mail.house.gov

Dear Congressman Walden,

Malheur County is aware of the challenges that rural communities face when it comes to accessing high-speed internet and we are grateful that new technology can utilize television white space bandwidth to help transmit affordable, quality internet to rural regions. However, to make this happen, it will be important for the FCC to ensure that three channels below 700 MHz are available for wireless use on an unlicensed basis in every market in the country, with additional TV white spaces available in smaller markets and frontier areas. That is why we are contacting you today.

Our more than 31,000 citizens in the county need access to affordable and reliable broadband to help our businesses, our schools, and our critical government services. Over the last ten years, the FCC has begun the process of advancing television white space technology by supporting its introduction and development. Now, as the technology has evolved, it is time for the FCC to finalize the permanent policies that will be necessary to ensure that White Space can be used at a commercial scale.

For a long time, frontier areas such as ours, have struggled with limited high-speed internet access and new technology can solve this problem in a meaningful way. I hope you will work with the FCC to ensure a new era of internet accessibility for frontier areas across the United States.

Sincerely,

Dan P. Joyce
County Judge

cc: Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

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