

BRISTOL BAY NATIVE ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 310
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PHONE (907) 842-5257

June 2, 2016, 2016

Tribal Councils
Served by BBNA:

Aleknagik

The Honorable Senator Murkowski
709 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Chignik Bay

Chignik Lagoon

Chignik Lake

The Honorable Senator Sullivan
702 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Clarks Point

Curyung

Egegik

The Honorable Congressman Young
2314 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Ekuk

Ekwok

Igiugig

Iliamna

Senator Murkowksi, Senator Sullivan, Congressman Young:

Ivanof Bay

Kanatak

I am writing to ask for your support ensuring affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband is available for all Alaskans, including those who reside in rural communities. Access to the internet is a foundation for economic growth, quality health care, education, and overall a better way of life.

King Salmon

Kokhanok

Koliganek

That is why I hope you will tell the FCC to direct a substantial portion of the public monies that go to Alaska to be used to link the state's off-road communities to urban Alaska with adequate, affordable, competitive high-speed broadband capability. Rural Alaskans should be entitled to internet access similar in type and price as other Alaskans and Americans. This does not require wasteful spending on duplicative facilities.

Levelock

Manokotak

Naknek

New Stuyahok

Newhalen

Nondalton

Pedro Bay

The FCC should attach conditions to receipt of public monies, as a check, to make sure all the money goes for the purposes we need most. We need to be assured that broadband service is provided at adequate speed and quality, and that there is sufficient capacity, so that we may receive services similar to those available in urban markets both today and tomorrow. We want to make sure we have competitive offerings, because competition brings lower prices and better service.

Perryville

Pilot Point

Port Heiden

Portage Creek

South Naknek

Togiak

Twin Hills

Ugashik

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BBNA currently pays about \$80,000 per year for internet access. However, the connections are very limited, with low bandwidth caps, that we are unable to utilize many of the communication tools available to the rest of the United States. For example, we are unable to participate in web conferencing, online trainings, web-hosted email and online backup, and staff have limited access to required grant management websites.

We ask that you support the FCC's imposition of specific conditions to guarantee these objectives. Competition and accountability is the only way to ensure that rural Alaska will have access to affordable, reliable, high-speed Internet. Connecting our communities to the rest of Alaska, and the world, is critical for our state's success.

Thank you for your support.



Ralph Andersen
President & CEO

CC: Marlene Dortch, FCC Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554