To the FCC:

I have lived, worked, and studied in rural areas for a portion of my adult life. For the other portion, I have lived in highly urban areas. The difference in quality of internet access is dramatic, and I encourage you to not perpetrate this disparity but to work to eliminate it. I currently live in a small city within a block of rural counties.

This proposal to decrease required speeds for “broadband” to 10/1 is insufficient. It would not support my blossoming small business. It would not support watching a movie on Netflix. It would not support taking an online MOOC to further one’s education.

While cell phones are a common route for accessing the internet among Americans, cell phone coverage is lacking in many rural areas. I encourage you to visit rural West Virginia, the green mountains of Vermont, and the white mountains of New Hampshire. These areas lack sufficient cell phone coverage AND sufficient broadband access. Lowering standards will not improve the disparity.

Please do not proceed with this proposed change.

Stephanie Bostic