

*Rick Johnson*

*230 N. Washington Square, Suite 101  
Lansing, MI 48933*

*Telephone No. 517-708-2915*

*Speaker  
Michigan House of Representatives  
2001-2004*

*Michigan House of Representatives  
102nd District, Michigan  
1999-2004*

September 20, 2016

The Honorable Thomas Wheeler  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

I am a former Speaker of the Michigan House of Representatives. My district, where I still reside, is located in a rural part of our State. I am also a farmer and an active member of the Michigan Farm Bureau.

It is my understanding that the Federal Communications Commission has a proposed rule for business data services that will impact broadband service. As you know, broadband service in rural areas has lagged far behind other parts of the country and that is especially true in Michigan.

The proposed rule is based on data that does not have a complete picture of what is occurring in the marketplace. As a regulator, I hope that you will review this situation. Whether in my legislative work or in farming I know that using bad data leads to bad decisions.

My concern is that this bad decision, the proposed rule, will hurt broadband development in my area and all rural areas in our country. I know for the agricultural industry and for other businesses in our area this will cause major problems.

Please review this situation and make the appropriate changes to the proposed rule.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

*Rick Johnson*