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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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December 15, 2006

07-16

Chairman Kevin Martin
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Room 8-B201
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Free Broadband Internet Access

Mr. Chairman:

The FCC has the opportunity to allow a monumental step forward in internet provider service. M2Z has submitted an application to the FCC for establishment of nationwide free broadband internet which, if approved, will revolutionize the availability and usability of the internet in this country. I urge the commission to give prompt and favorable consideration to this proposal.

Alaska would benefit in many ways from having free broadband internet services. Our education system would clearly benefit by utilizing this free service. Many of our schools use the internet extensively to bridge the rural/urban divide and to share educational experiences. A nationwide broadband system would greatly enhance their ability to utilize the internet.

Each elected official has a responsibility to encourage and promote development of small business. The internet plays a huge roll in giving these businesses access to world markets. Free access to broadband internet could be instrumental to the success of these small businesses.

The communities in southeast Alaska are widely spread out and not connected by road. The internet has proven to be an essential means of communication for community leaders, emergency service providers and our citizens. Universal connectivity to broadband internet is important to our future growth and prosperity.

The FCC currently has a proposal before it to allow nationwide free broadband internet services. I urge the commission to give favorable consideration to this proposal.

Sincerely,

Bruce Botelho
Mayor

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Chairman Kevin Martin, Chairman FCC

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CC:

FCC Secretary Marline Dortch

Acting Chief Wireless Bureau Kathy Seidel

Senator Ted Stevens

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Representative Don Young