

Via email

02/08/2007

Frances Dobson
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Dear Kevin Martin,

The Internet has become an integral part of American life and will only become more important in the future. That is why all Americans need access to Internet service that is fast, free and family-friendly.

Today there are at least 114 million adults in the United States that have limited or no access to the Internet. This highlights a clear gap between the communications infrastructure of the United States and many of our global competitors that already offer much faster and more affordable access. There is also a growing digital divide separating Americans who can afford to have access to broadband Internet connections and those who do not.

Increasing access to wireless broadband technology would serve many ends: it would foster an equality of opportunity through an equality of access, it would increase involvement in civic discourse by making news and governmental services more readily available, and it would undeniably drive the American economy to grow as small businesses currently without access join the growing world of global e-commerce.

Implementation of a fast, free, and family-friendly universal broadband access program, like that supported by the Coalition for Free Broadband Now, would be a welcome, and necessary, first step towards protecting our children online while ensuring that all Americans have affordable access to Internet service.

The time has come to take action! The FCC and the Federal government must work diligently to ensure that all Americans have access to fast, free, family-friendly broadband Internet connections.

Sincerely,

Frances Dobson

Cc: Deborah Taylor Tate
Robert McDowell
Michael Copps
Jonathan Adelstein
Rep. Joe Barton
Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison