

Wednesday, September 03

The Honorable Kevin J. Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Notice of Ex Parte Communication in the Matter of WC Docket 07-38
(Broadband Data Collection)

Dear Chairman Martin:

Hello, I am writing in support of the work being done by Connected Nation and its Kentucky based initiative, ConnectKentucky. I have been very impressed with the work and accomplishments of the Connected Nation organization to improve broadband data, deployment, and adoption in Kentucky and, in particular, Louisville.

Recent studies show that a digital divide exists, and affects states like Kentucky with less access and lower adoption rates for technology. This digital divide, however, does not only affect rural areas. Urban areas like Louisville experience the same problem of low technology adoption which prevents many benefits of broadband from penetrating to our disadvantaged citizens. Connected Nation's model takes into account this fact. Their model, in particular the granular broadband availability mapping of Jefferson County that is updated on a regular basis, and their Computer 4 Kids program have combined to be the right tools and partners we local officials need to create rapid positive results.

Many of our area schools and students have been the beneficiary of Connected Nation's work, highlighted by their recent grants totaling \$125,000 to Jefferson County so far in 2008 through ConnectKentucky's Computers 4 Kids program.

As a member of the National League of Cities Information, Technology, and Steering Committee, I am very aware of the importance of technology and its role in improving the lives of underprivileged populations. Connected Nation's work in Louisville will improve computer literacy and education for area students. I am proud to be one of their many supporters.

I look forward to continuing my relationship with Connected Nation and commend them for all of their efforts in Louisville, Kentucky.

Sincerely,

Kevin J. Kramer

District 11 Councilman

Cc:

Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein

Commissioner Michael Copps

Commissioner Robert McDowell

Commissioner Deborah Tate

Marlene Dortch, Secretary