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WORKER'S COMP OVERSIGHT  
TENN CARE OVERSIGHT

October 13, 2009

Julius Genachowski, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

I am writing to express my concern about the FCC's upcoming announcement on network neutrality. Heavily regulating wireless networks will reduce investment in communities throughout my legislative district Tennessee and cut into job growth – two issues that affect West Tennessee deeply.

My district is blessed to have communities, such as Henderson, Tennessee, with 3g wireless network connecting our citizens and the students of Freed-Hardeman University to the world. The i-Know initiative at Freed-Hardeman University is a unique collaboration between the university, Apple, and AT&T to help students develop the next generation of skills needed to thrive in the global marketplace. In addition, West Tennessee has seen a significant growth in wireless cell towers that is symbolic of the competitive nature of the wireless business in our area.

The deployment of advanced 3g technology in Henderson, Tennessee, and investment in cell towers in communities like Scotts Hill, Tennessee, is a success story. Nearly all residents and businesses have access to advanced wireless phones and networks, empowering new innovation and better value. Free market forces and investment are the reason for the investment in our community. Consequently, it is imperative that the FCC retain the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship that has built the robust wireless and online networks we have today.

The FCC can take another step by avoiding network neutrality regulation of wireless broadband deployment. Henderson, Tennessee, is a model community for the type of investment required to bring broadband and the associated well-paying local jobs and technology to all areas of the nation.

I think we all agree that a fair and open Internet is important, but your proposed regulations on wireless broadband service will shut off further investment in my district, costing us jobs and investment. West Tennessee needs the opportunity to continue growing without unnecessary new regulations.

I thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve K. McDaniel".

Steve McDaniel  
Deputy Speaker, Tennessee House of Representatives