

# South Carolina Alliance of Black School Educators

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January 7, 2010

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

Re: GN Docket No. 09-191

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

I write on behalf of the 1,400 members of the South Carolina Alliance of Black School Educators (SCABSE). Our membership includes principals, administrators, teachers and college students throughout the state, all committed to improving the educational achievement of African-American students.

As educators, we are accustomed to adapting our methods to capitalize on advances in technology and on new opportunities to increase learning by integrating technology into curricula. That is why we are excited about the impact of broadband technology in our classrooms and on our students. Today's Internet, provided over broadband connections, moves learning outside the schoolhouse in a way veteran educators once could only dream about. By taking students beyond the traditional classroom experience, broadband increases learning, ignites new interests, sparks new dreams, and enables each young person to achieve his or her full potential.

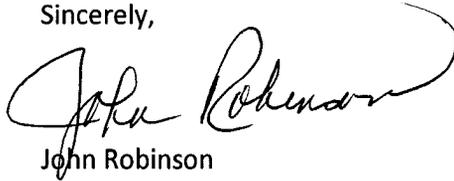
For this to occur, however, broadband must be both available and utilized. We need public policies which (a) stimulate the deployment of broadband service at competitive prices and (b) encourage the actual use of broadband. Simply making broadband accessible is no more beneficial than setting a meal before a hungry child. The technology must be used and the meal must be eaten for there to be benefit.

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I understand the FCC is considering new regulations regarding the Internet and broadband service. To the extent that these regulations will actually promote and stimulate the deployment of broadband technology, and its use, we would encourage your efforts. But to the extent that the new regulations fail to proactively further efforts toward broadband deployment and adoption, we would urge you to exercise extreme caution. The students we serve, and their peers around the country, have tremendous potential. I implore you to work with us in helping them achieve it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Robinson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

John Robinson  
Executive Director