



## WASHINGTON STATE GRANGE

924 Capitol Way S #300 • PO Box 1186 • Olympia, WA 98507-1186  
(360) 943-9911 • (800) 854-1635 • FAX (360) 357-3548  
[www.wa-grange.org](http://www.wa-grange.org)

April 1, 2010

Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker  
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn  
Commissioner Michael J. Copps  
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell

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

**Re: GN Docket No. 09-191**

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

The Washington State Grange urges the Federal Communications Commission to concentrate its efforts on implementing recently released National Broadband Plan and speed the development of broadband service in rural areas, instead of implementing unnecessary government regulations and controls on the internet. We believe that unnecessary government regulations that dictate non-discrimination will reduce level of flexibility necessary for network operators to ensure quality of service (QoS) to customers in the rural communities we represent. Further, it is our belief that the Notice of Proposed Rule-making's nondiscrimination clause will raise an additional barrier to adoption in these communities.

A one-size-fits all, regulatory prohibition that restrains the management of the Internet's infrastructure will be counter-productive. Echoing the comments of the National Grange, we believe that maintaining private network management is essential to satisfying end user expectations for Internet service in rural, farming areas. As more and more rural Americans use broadband to connect with doctors, telecommute, run small businesses, and access the world, heavy bandwidth applications and the arrival of new software streaming across the network will become the common expectation for rural broadband customers. Internet service providers should not be burdened with a new non-discrimination regulation that inhibits their ability to manage networks in such a way that maximizes each consumer's experience, regardless of their geography.



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The Washington State Grange strongly believes access to affordable, high-speed broadband service is critical to the social, economic, and political sustainability of farming, rural communities. We ask that you please focus on implementing the National Broadband Plan to help broadband reach all parts of rural America. By rejecting inflexible regulations that would suppress innovation and increase the barriers to broadband adoption the FCC will help those Americans living in underserved communities realize the myriad benefits of high speed Internet access.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Holli Johnson'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Holli' being more prominent.

Holli Johnson  
Legislative Liaison