



STATE OF ARKANSAS
MIKE BEEBE
GOVERNOR

May 17, 2010

Julius Genachowski, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I'm writing to express my concern over your proposal to classify broadband services under Title II of the Communications Act of 1934. As we discussed over dinner last November, I favor a free-and-open Internet and support every effort to maintain access to legal Web sites and prevent unreasonable discrimination against content providers and end users. However, I am concerned that the efforts under way to regulate broadband under the common-carrier provisions of the 1934 Act will stifle investment in broadband capacity at a time when Arkansas needs that investment the most.

Arkansas has fared better than many of our sister states during the economic turmoil of the past two years, in part because of our strong economic-development efforts. Since 2007, we have announced nearly 25,000 new jobs and corporate investment of \$4.1 billion. As we work to attract new investment and business development, particularly to more rural areas of Arkansas, we count on our service providers to make the network investments necessary to support that growth. Arkansas needs more network capacity in more places, not less, and I fear that the proposed regulation will chill investment in this critical service.

I support the Commission's initiatives to extend broadband service to rural America, and applaud the investments made by all of our service providers, across every available platform, to deliver on the promise of greater Internet connectivity for every Arkansan. This latest effort to regulate the Internet appears to contradict that worthy goal. As always, I appreciate your efforts to weigh the implications of this extremely complicated issue and appreciate the opportunity to share my concerns with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Beebe".

Mike Beebe

MB:jb