

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
JERRY PETROWSKI
86TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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Julius Genachowski, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Eighth Floor
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

It has recently come to my attention that the Federal Communications Commission is considering a proposal to overhaul the Universal Service Fund in a way that would reallocate most of the available funds to home-based broadband delivery. While I support every effort to bring affordable and competitive Internet services to the people of Wisconsin, I am concerned that the current proposal ignores the growing need for mobile broadband access in our state and across our nation.

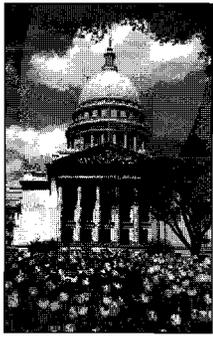
As I travel to our rural communities, such as the one in which I live, it is plain to see that our citizens want and need improved mobile broadband to access information, conduct business, and keep in touch with family. Our people should not be limited to just accessing the internet through their home computer; they need an always-on connection in their pockets they can take everywhere they work, live, and play. Likewise, our police and first responders increasingly rely on mobile wireless networks to communicate with citizens and perform critical tasks such as conducting undercover operations.

The people who stand to lose the most under this proposal, however, are rural Wisconsinites and rural Americans. The USF has been a lifeline for those in rural areas since 1996, but the proposal would deprive them of hundreds of millions of dollars for mobile broadband development that can improve public safety, bolster local economies, and bring lifestyle benefits to smaller communities that residents of larger cities already enjoy.

Mobile broadband will also play a critical role in putting American to work at a time when we are in dire need of job creation solutions. A recent Deloitte reports projects 15,000 new American jobs for every \$1 billion invested in mobile broadband.

Lastly, it troubles me that the FCC has provided such a limited opportunity for comment from rural Wisconsinites and other concerned citizens. As the proposal under consideration stands to have major implications for their communities, it seems critical to allow ample time for public comment and debate. A potential change of this magnitude deserves more transparency.

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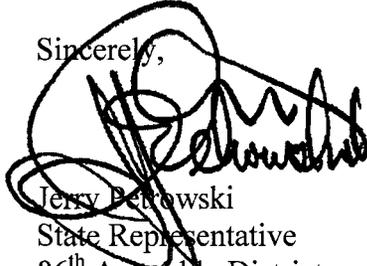
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JERRY PETROWSKI

86TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

For the benefit of Wisconsin residents, I call on the FCC to seek USF reform proposals that have a sharper focus on wireless mobile broadband. Our future depends on it.

Sincerely,



Jerry Petrowski
State Representative
86th Assembly District

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