

125th Legislature
Senate of
Maine
Senate District 18

WC: 10-40
GN: 09-51
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WC: 05-337
CC: 01-32
CC: 96-45
WC: 03-109

Senator Thomas B. Saviello
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0003
(207) 287-1505

60 Applegate Lane
Wilton, ME 04294
Home (207) 645-3420

Received & Inspected

OCT 17 2011

FCC Mail Room

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

September 27, 2011

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

As the FCC deliberates on options to revise how funds are allocated within the Universal Service Fund, I ask that you do not jeopardize the development of mobile broadband in Maine's rural communities.

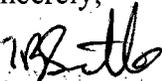
I understand one proposal before you could result in a potential loss to rural Maine of up to \$96 million. Our economic recovery and growth relies on maintaining the most advanced technology, of which mobile broadband is a significant part.

As a State Senator representing rural communities, I am keenly aware of the growing demand for mobile services. Even our public safety organizations rely on mobile telephone these days. This is not the time to reduce funding for this technology.

Since the proposal under consideration has major implications for Maine people, it is critical to allow ample time for public comment and debate. A potential change of this magnitude deserves more transparency.

As you consider your options, I ask that any reform proposal for the USF not reduce spending for mobile broadband services. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Thomas Saviello
State Senator