

## Comments Regarding E-Rate NPRM Proceeding 13-184

Talladega County Schools is a rural school system composed of 16 schools and servicing over 7500 students. Many of our students live at or below the poverty line and lack technology and internet access at home. Our Vision is to provide an engaging and rigorous curriculum empowering all students to be college and career ready. To achieve this we have begun the implementation of an ambitious 1 to 1 initiative and our teachers currently utilize technology to instruct through project based learning.

We have utilized E-Rate funds to create a robust network to support these devices and provide internet access for our schools. However as technology advances we will face a continued need to increase not only the available bandwidth but to replace the network appliances that connect our schools and classrooms. We cannot do this without a well-funded E-Rate program. In order to meet the needs of our children E-Rate funding levels must be increased to allow for not only bandwidth but for the infrastructure, necessary programs to insure CIPA compliance and to enable students to have credible internet access at home.

Sincerely,

Randy F. Roberts  
Technology Specialist  
Talladega County Schools