

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10215 Landwood Drive  
Louisville, KY 40291  
(502) 231-3311



**KEVIN D. BRATCHER**  
29<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

**COMMITTEES:**  
Judiciary  
Elections, Constitutional Amendments  
& Intergovernmental Affairs  
Br Sub. on General Government  
State Government

Kentucky Public Service Commission  
211 Sower Road  
Frankfort, KY 40601

Dear Commissioners:

I'm writing to you today in support of faster broadband deployment that can occur with quick decision making on the pole attachment proceeding that is now before that Kentucky Public Service Commission.

As a representative of the 29<sup>th</sup> District and a member of the General Assembly's Joint Committee on Economic and Workforce Development, I know that expanding broadband access throughout our state will help us attract investment, grow small businesses, and create jobs. Additionally, a strong Kentucky workforce depends on well-educated citizens.

Providers seeking to build out vital broadband infrastructure are currently hamstrung by a complex, costly, and cumbersome process when trying to connect their internet service lines to utility poles. We can't undercut the future of our children and our state because of the lack of clear and consistent framework for pole attachments, which results in denying broadband buildout and ultimately harms kids in rural areas.

That is why I am urging the Commission to make further improvements to the utility pole regulations under current consideration so that more unserved communities are set up for success. The PSC has the opportunity to ensure broadband providers have fair, reasonable access to utility poles that are essential to expanding high-speed broadband service. By establishing more clarity related to costs associated with utility poles replacements, the process for broadband providers to attach new infrastructure to utility poles will become more cost-effective and efficient. Additionally, I urge you to address other related matters such as the over lashing of broadband fiber lines, which can help expedite deployment.

I eagerly hope that you will take additional common-sense steps to ease utility pole access restrictions. My stance is shared by numerous business and community organizations here in Kentucky, many of my colleagues in the General Assembly and the State Senate.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and for taking the right steps for Kentucky's future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin D. Bratcher".

Kevin D. Bratcher  
State Representative, 29<sup>th</sup> District  
Kentucky General Assembly