

Commonwealth of Kentucky

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
80TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT
P.O. Box 121
Stanford, KY 40484



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DAVID MEADE
Speaker Pro Tempore
October 12, 2020

Kentucky Public Service Commission
211 Sower Boulevard
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

RE: Pole Attachment Regulations

Dear Kentucky Public Service Commissioners:

I write to request that the Public Service Commission (PSC) strongly considers the positive impact the ongoing utility pole attachment proceeding could have on districts like mine. Broadband connectivity remains a key issue in regions of rural Kentucky, and we must examine every solution and tool to bring this necessary service to families and businesses across the Commonwealth.

For the larger part of this year, our focus as legislators has been on meeting the needs of Kentuckians affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. In Lincoln and Pulaski Counties, I've heard from my constituents about the challenges they're facing as business owners, educators, farmers and healthcare professionals. One underlying challenge that ties each of these groups together is insufficient broadband connectivity.

The PSC can help reduce barriers to broadband deployment through their current proceeding on utility pole attachments. When connecting homes in rural areas, building out services is often costly and overly-complex. Improving access to utility poles is a key piece of the solution to mitigate unnecessary obstacles to pole access.

The PSC can make it happen, and I hope to see a positive outcome from this proceeding that will benefit thousands of rural Kentuckians.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David R. Meade".

David Meade
Speaker Pro Tempore
Commonwealth of Kentucky