COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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COMMITTEES:

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

October 14, 2020

Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Boulevard Frankfort, Kentucky 40602

Dear Kentucky Public Service Commissioners:

I am writing to request that the Public Service Commission (PSC) push the ongoing utility pole attachment proceeding forward to accelerate broadband deployment in the Commonwealth. The impact of this proceeding would be monumental for many communities across Kentucky, including those I represent in Jefferson County.

Within the last year, logging onto a computer for work, school, worship and more has been an integral part of everyday life. However, thousands of Kentuckians are still without reliable internet connection, leaving them at a great disadvantage.

Business owners are struggling to make sales and connect with potential customers, students are at risk of falling behind due to spotty service, and patients can't utilize telehealth solutions to navigate the pandemic.

The broadband build-out process is one of the main challenges standing in the way of bridging the digital divide in Kentucky. The PSC can help smooth this currently complex and costly process by lifting barriers to utility pole access.

Louisville is home to countless businesses, educational and healthcare institutions that serve rural residents across the Commonwealth. Improving our broadband infrastructure is key to allowing these institutions to operate free from unnecessary restrictions. I urge the PSC to consider how this proceeding would positively influence Kentucky's residents and economy.

Sincerely,

Kevin Bratcher

State Representative

District 29