

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

2009 OCT 28 P 2: 34

October 21, 2009

The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Dear Chairman Genachowski,

I am writing to ask that, during this current economic crisis, the Federal Communications Commission focus its attention and available dollars on expanding broadband Internet access to as many Americans as possible. This would be a better use of the Commission's resources than imposing new regulations on the bandwidth currently available.

Broadband investment and access to the Internet are critical to continuing innovation and to maintaining our nation's competitive edge. Since 1996, Internet service providers have invested hundreds of billions of dollars to build networks to provide high-speed Internet access to more than 90 percent of the United States. Rather than turning now to regulate the broadband that's currently available and draft new so-called net neutrality rules, the Commission should first complete its work on the National Broadband Plan by February as Congress mandated in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. This result will help more Americans have Internet access, promote innovation, and create good new jobs.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Lamar Alexander
United States Senator

cc: Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker