

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

WCB  
1524

October 25, 2011

Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I share your interest in increasing access to broadband services to rural Americans. That being said, it is my opinion that such an effort be done in a manner that is both cost efficient and supportive of the particular needs of rural America.

Prior to your October 27 open meeting, I would like to bring your attention to an issue that is of particular importance to my district. It is my understanding that the FCC will be considering \$3,000 per line caps under the new Universal Service Fund reform measures. While I am supportive of the FCC's directive to become more cost efficient, I have received feedback from local companies indicating that these new caps would render them unable to perform on their current USDA RUS loans.

It is my understanding that the FCC has developed a temporary waiver program for companies that will be negatively affected by the new per line cap. As a representative of one of the most rural districts in America, I would appreciate a more in depth explanation of the waiver process that will be provided to the companies whose very livelihoods may soon depend on this process.

Should you have any additional questions or concerns regarding this issue, please do not hesitate to contact me or Michelle Lane, of my staff, at 202-225-4735.

Sincerely,



Dan Benishek M. D.  
Member of Congress  
Michigan's First District

DB/ml

1 NOV 2011 RCVD