From: <u>Lance Linares</u>
To: <u>BOCrfc2015</u>

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"assemblymember.alejo@assembly.ca.gov"; "Carlos Palacios"; "Mkofarrell@aol.com";

"senator.monning@senate.ca.gov"

Subject: comment on broadband deployment

Date: Wednesday, June 03, 2015 6:49:35 PM

## To Whom It May Concern;

Please accept this email as a comment regarding the President's Interagency Broadband Opportunity Council's request for public comment on how federal agencies can promote broadband deployment, adoption and competition.

Our County of service, Santa Cruz County, California, is a combination of rural and semiurban jurisdictions. We reside less than 35 miles from Silicon Valley but over a winding stretch of highway. This places us between rugged mountains and the Monterey Bay. Consequently much of Santa Cruz County has little or no access to broadband. With a growing young Latino population, a burgeoning tech community, a University of California campus, a changing landscape in agriculture, and an entrepreneurial spirit, our future is tied to broadband and access.

Here is a link to a bill from our local Assemblyman Mark Stone.

http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/15-16/bill/asm/ab\_0201-

0250/ab 238 bill 20150224 amended asm v98.html

Assembly Bill 238 serves to increase the definition of broadband to 25Mb down and 3Mb up. This will help change the definition of underserved areas, making more funding available and increasing the potential of serving more of our residents.

We would urge that the federal government realize the importance establishing a "Broadband Lifeline Program" and also actively work with states to take similar steps as those at the core of AB 238.

We know that we are not alone across the country. It is important to our Foundation that as many people as possible have access to reasonably priced, secure, and high-speed broadband.

Thank you for the opportunity to make these comments.

Sincerely,

## Lance Linares Chief Executive Officer

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