

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 13, 2018

Mr. David Redl
Assistant Secretary for Communications and
NTIA Administrator
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Administrator Redl,

As you know, the NTIA recently issued a request for recommendations and feedback on broadband availability and mechanisms to validate this data.

We are gravely concerned about a recent announcement made by New York State's Governor Andrew Cuomo regarding internet access. In January 2018, Governor Cuomo claimed 100% internet coverage across the State of New York. However, we write to you today as Members who represent constituencies who are still lacking access to broadband services. Much of our districts are underserved while other areas remain completely unserved.

Accurate broadband maps are crucial to the future of our constituencies and it is important that the information is factually accurate and validated. Many of our local municipalities have paid to have mapping done and already have factual and accurate data. We ask that these local governments are consulted as NTIA moves forward in mapping broadband access. There is no one better to tell the federal government where service is lacking than those closest to the problem.

New York's local governments, businesses, and families are lacking reliable broadband internet services and are being further left behind due to the Governor's inaccurate statements. Broadband services have become a necessity of everyday life, used for everything from homework to running a business or online shopping.

We commend you for taking on the task of updating our country's outdated and unreliable broadband access maps. As you update the maps, we respectfully request that you disregard blanket statements of full coverage by those who are simply trying to fill a political agenda. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to our Congressional offices.

Sincerely,



CHRIS COLLINS

Member of Congress



ELISE STEFANIK

Member of Congress



CLAUDIA TENNEY

Member of Congress



JOHN FASO

Member of Congress