USTELECOM | THE BROADBAND ASSOCIATION

November 24, 2026

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
House Minority Leader
H-204, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson and Leader Jeffries:

The undersigned USTelecom – The Broadband Association members and state broadband associations representing providers across the country write to express our strong support for the Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act (BAAJA) and urge the House of Representatives to pass it this year.

Customers count on fast, reliable, future-proofed internet to run a business, take a class, see a doctor, and earn a living. Getting more Americans connected starts with clearing the path to build. Faster permitting helps lower construction costs, making it easier for providers to bring affordable, high-speed internet to more families and businesses.

Congress has made historic investments in expanding high-speed broadband internet access to unserved and underserved communities through the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's ReConnect Program, and other federal broadband initiatives. However, lengthy, duplicative federal permitting reviews continue to delay broadband deployment, slow construction, drive up costs, and put federal buildout deadlines at risk. These challenges are particularly significant for projects crossing federal lands, where providers often face multiple and lengthy layers of federal review.

Importantly, BAAJA includes permitting relief for federally funded and privately funded broadband projects, helping address a longstanding barrier to broadband internet deployment, while addressing community needs and local concerns. As providers expand their networks with BEAD and ReConnect funding, these changes will mean fewer costly delays and more time and money spent connecting communities.

We urge the House to swiftly pass BAAJA to help accelerate broadband deployment and expand connectivity across the country.

Sincerely,

USTelecom – The Broadband Association

Broadband Providers (and respective service areas)

Alaska Communications
AK

Altafiber
IN, KY, OH

AT&T
Nationwide

BBT
TX

Blackfoot Communications
ID, MT

BrightSpeed
AL, AR, GA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MI, MO, MS, NC, NJ, OH, OK, PA, SC, TN, TX, VA, WI

Btel
TX

Cal-Ore Telephone
CA, OR

CentraCom
NV, UT

Central Broadband
IA, WI

CLTel
IA

Cross
OK

CTC Communications
MN

Duo Broadband
IN, KY, OH

EasTex
TX

Giant Communications
KS

GVTC
TX

Hamilton Communications
NE

Hanson Communications
MN, OH, SD

Hawaiian Telecom
HI

Hunter Communications
CA, OR

JBN Telephone Company
KS

Lumen
Nationwide

Lumos Fiber
AL, FL, GA, IL, IN, KY, MO, NC, OH, SC, VA

PhireLink
AR, CO, LA

Pineland Telephone Cooperative
GA

Range Communications
CO, MT, SD, WY

Riviera Telephone Company
TX

Shentel
DE, KY, MD, OH, PA, VA, WV

SilverStar Communications
ID, WY

Smart City Telecom
FL

Smithville Communications
IN

Southwest Texas Communications
TX

Totah Communiations
KS, OK

TotalComm
TX

Uniti
AL, AR, FL, GA, IA, KY, MN, MO, MS, NC, NE, NM, NY, OH, OK, PA, SC, TX

Verizon
Nationwide

Western New Mexico Telephone
NM

Ziply
AZ, ID, MT, OR, WA

State Associations

Alaska Telecom Association
BroadbandMT
Broadband Association of Alabama and Mississippi
Communications Coalition of Kansas
Georgia Telecom and Broadband Association
Indiana Broadband and Technology Association
Iowa Communications Alliance
Kentucky Rural Broadband Association
Minnesota Telecom Alliance
Nevada Telecommunications Association
Ohio Broadband & Technology Association
Oregon Broadband Association
Texas Rural Broadband Association
Utah Rural Telecom Association
Washington State Telecom Association
Wisconsin State Telecom Association