



Satellite Broadcasting  
and Communications  
Association

Satellite Broadcasting and Communications Association  
1100 17th Street NW, Suite 1150  
Washington, District of Columbia 20036

Members of the Committee:

We write to you today regarding House Bill 281, which creates a residential broadband expansion program within the Development Services Agency. The Satellite Broadcasting and Communications Association (SBCA) serves as the sole national trade association for the consumer satellite industry for both video and broadband. SBCA has over 600 members, many of them located in communities across Ohio, contributing to the needs of their hometowns and local organizations.

Ohio House Bill 281 is focused on providing funding for the last mile of broadband expansion. The SBCA is concerned that this bill focuses on wired solutions and does not allow alternative technologies, including satellite broadband, to participate. We would encourage the Committee to consider satellite and wireless broadband solutions in this bill.

In recent months satellite broadband providers have launched new services providing consumers with high speed broadband in any location. These services meet or exceed the FCC definition of broadband with a minimum speed of 25Mbps download and 3Mbps upload, which is available to both residential and commercial users throughout Ohio today. The satellite industry has been recognized by the FCC as the number one provider in the internet market for meeting advertised speeds. The service is cost effective and competitive to other broadband providers and is available throughout Ohio – rural areas, urban areas, and everything in-between. The satellite broadband industry is continually working on the next generation of satellites, which in the coming years will be able to deliver speeds of 100Mbps or more to all Ohioans.

The SBCA encourages the Committee to consider satellite broadband in its grant process as a high speed broadband solution to consumer's without the cost and delay required of construction projects. By including all forms of technology in the state's broadband expansion program, the state will encourage competition and allow consumers to decide which service best meets their needs.

Thank you for your time and consideration to this matter. We respectfully request an amendment to House Bill 281 that includes satellite broadband as part of the grant process. In the future, we would also like to work with members of the Committee to further evaluate satellite broadband and its role in delivering high speed internet throughout the state of Ohio.

Sincerely;

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Hill", is written over a horizontal line.

Steven Hill  
President  
SBCA