



From the desk of:
Donny Chaplin
President

2029 Aelna Road Ashtabula, OH 44004 440-998-2900

February 5, 2018

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee:

As President of Grand River Rubber & Plastics located in Ashtabula, Ohio, I would like to offer my full support to Ohio House Bill 378, which would create the Ohio Broadband Development Grant.

Many of our 200 plus employees live and work in Ashtabula County. We are endeavoring to grow and prosper economically as a county as both businesses and as families. The passing of the Ohio Broadband Development Grant would allow us to reach our fuller potential as we as a county work together.

Access to broadband high speed internet will further allow our local based businesses to expand their reach across the state of Ohio, the nation and yes even the world. The OBDG will enhance the access to educational opportunities and health care when at times extended travel might be needed instead. In addition, with the access of broadband, we will further be able to encourage citizens of other communities (particularly nearby larger cities) to put down roots here in Ashtabula County knowing they will have the same access to broadband that the "big city" offered them. This will help us increase our population, and give a much needed boost to the supporting residential tax base.

On behalf of myself and all the employees of Grand River Rubber, I thank you for your consideration to pass Ohio House Bill 378.

Sincerely,

Donald Chaplin
President
Grand River Rubber & Plastics