



For Immediate Release

INCOMPAS on Trump Rural Broadband Executive Order: Competition in Broadband Deployment Means More Competitive American Businesses

WASHINGTON DC (January 8th, 2018) – Today, President Donald Trump announced an executive order on rural broadband following the release of the Rural Prosperity Task Force [report](#) outlining its rural broadband deployment agenda.

President Donald Trump spoke to these priorities during a speech Monday to the American Farm Bureau Convention. In his remarks, the President announced an executive order and stressed the importance of rural broadband deployment as it enables American businesses to compete in a 21st century economy.

In response, Chip Pickering, CEO of INCOMPAS, the internet and competitive networks association, representing wired and wireless builders, released the following statement:

“We commend President Donald Trump for his action today to spur rural broadband deployment, stressing the need to bring faster networks that give our businesses the chance to compete. If more business competition is the goal, then it makes sense that competition policy that helps new broadband providers is where we start.

“Deployment in rural America, both wired and wireless, will only happen if we eliminate monopoly, roadblocks on poles, buildings and infrastructure at the state and local level that have prevented new network builders from delivering faster, more affordable high-speed internet to American consumers. It is unacceptable that over two-thirds of Americans only have one or two choices for broadband providers.

“As we work to streamline and remove regulatory barriers to deployment, it is important that government investments remain open to, and encourage, innovation from new companies seeking to get into the game. Policies that protect monopoly deployment deliver slower, more expensive results, and it is our hope that President Trump and all policy makers will embrace and unleash the power of competition policy to promote faster, more affordable broadband for rural and underserved markets.

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About INCOMPAS:

INCOMPAS, the Internet and competitive networks association, is the leading trade group advocating for competition policy across all networks. INCOMPAS represents Internet, streaming, communications and technology companies large and small, advocating for laws and policies that promote competition, innovation and economic development. Learn more at www.incompas.org or follow us on Twitter: @INCOMPAS @ChipPickering