



For Immediate Release

INCOMPAS to FCC: Set Gigabit Goal Now

Internet and Competitive Networks Association Files Comments in Broadband Deployment Report NOI

WASHINGTON, D.C. (September 17, 2018) – INCOMPAS, the internet and competitive networks association, is calling on the FCC to set bold goals for internet speeds, warning that China and other nations may pull ahead in the race to the future.

INCOMPAS has filed comments in the Broadband Deployment Report Notice of Inquiry at the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Per Section 706 of the 1996 Telecommunications Act, the FCC is required to assess the availability of advanced telecommunications services – or broadband – within the United States annually. To do so, the Commission must have the proper standards, data, and broadband measurement tools, including an accurate map, on the books.

INCOMPAS' comments call for three things:

INCOMPAS urged the Commission to raise national broadband fixed standard to one Gigabit. Many incumbent and competitive providers already offer service at one Gigabit speeds. It is time for the Commission to adopt a future-proof definition of broadband.

Additionally, INCOMPAS explained wireless internet is not a substitute for fixed broadband and the Commission should continue to treat them as distinct services. American consumers and businesses rely on both fixed and mobile broadband networks to live and compete in a 21st century economy.

Lastly, INCOMPAS lauded the FCC for its efforts to remove barriers to deployment and encouraged it to take further steps in achieving this goal. This includes denying USTelecom's competition cut off petition that would eliminate competitive providers' access to legacy networks that they use as a bridge to deploying new networks in rural and urban underserved communities.

Read INCOMPAS' comments [here](#).

In addition, INCOMPAS CEO Chip Pickering released the following statement:

"We are in a global race to the future and the FCC must set Gigabit goals now. While incumbent providers are arguing to slow down the internet and kill competition, it is time for the FCC to set a bold speed benchmark of a Gigabit and beyond.

"Small, competitive broadband providers are building Gigabit networks in communities around the nation. In fact, they lay more fiber than giant telecom incumbents who are failing to invest.

"If we want America's innovation economy to flourish and our education system to be second to none, then we must be the speed leader. The FCC should be collecting accurate broadband availability information and fixing the damn broadband maps will help as well."

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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