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# JAMES W. EDMING

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 87<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

December 14, 2017

Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington D.C. 20554

Members of the Federal Communications Commission:

My name is Representative James Edming, and I serve the people of the 87<sup>th</sup> District in the Wisconsin State Assembly. I represent a very rural district in the Northwoods of Wisconsin. Many of my constituents are struggling to find reliable and secure broadband access. Over the past few years the State of Wisconsin has invested more funds into expanding that access, however even with that increased investment, this is an issue that remains for many rural residents and small business owners in our state.

I hear from constituents on a regular basis asking me when broadband will reach them in rural northern Wisconsin. My office and I attempt to assist them the best that we can, including speaking with providers in the area. This process is often very frustrating for them and for me as the answer all too often is that we cannot do anything to help. One of the primary reasons we hear for the lack of access is the cost to install the necessary infrastructure for wired broadband. When I heard about TV White Space technology and began looking into it, it became clear that this technology can be an answer to the broadband access problems for many people in rural Wisconsin.

Through its development, TV White Space is now able to deliver high-speed internet that operates four times faster and reaches sixteen times farther than Wi-Fi. This technology uses a frequency that allows it to move through objects like hills and foliage. It is currently estimated that TV White Space can reach **80%** of the rural population not currently receiving any broadband access. That kind of access would be life-changing for my district.

I write to you to urge the adoption of the necessary regulations to allow TV White Space technology as an option for broadband access. Providing a new affordable option for rural broadband access will greatly benefit many people in rural Wisconsin, including those in the 87<sup>th</sup> District which I represent. I encourage you to do everything you can to make this technology available to those who need it most. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James W. Edming". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**James W. Edming**  
State Representative  
Wisconsin's 87<sup>th</sup> Assembly District