Why Local Solutions?

Investment from local government and co-ops improves Internet access

#1. State and federal government won't solve the problem.

- The federal government has offered billion of dollars to CenturyLink and AT&T, resulting in little infrastructure improvement. Despite funding, speeds still do not meet the FCC definition of broadband

- State government is too focused on Big Telecom. HB 2108 protects large, absentee Internet Service Providers and takes control from communities

#2. Large telecom companies refuse to invest in rural areas.

- Many ISPs use outdated technology like DSL that doesn't meet current demand for service. These companies do not upgrade infrastructure because they do not have competitors

- Mobile wireless connections are insufficient for long-term use due to bandwidth caps. Fiber-optics are future-proof and affordable with a local business plan

#3. Local leaders can best resolve local issues.

You know what is best for your community's infrastructure needs. Local leaders can improve Internet access in a multitude of ways:

- **Institutional Networks** connect businesses, schools, libraries, governments, and hospitals
- **Municipal Fiber Networks** come in many models. Open-access networks allow multiple ISPs to operate on publicly-owned infrastructure, creating competition to improve speeds and lower prices
- **Co-ops** are non-profit entities that may already provide utilities like telephone service and electricity
- **Carrier Neutral Locations** promote collaboration between ISPs by acting as a major connection point. CNLs create savings by lowering infrastructure costs

These models help communities take control of their digital destiny

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