



News

From the Fiber-to-the-Home Council

For Immediate Release
September 24, 2008

Fiber-to-the-Home Council and Other Organizations Urge Congressional Action on "100 Megabit Nation" Resolution

(WASHINGTON) - In a letter to key Congressional committee leaders, the [Fiber-to-the-Home \(FTTH\) Council](#) joined with [Communications Workers of America \(CWA\)](#) and other organizations to request early action on House and Senate resolutions calling for national availability of next-generation broadband networks with transmission speeds of 100 megabits per second (Mbps) by 2015.

The letter, which was also signed by [TechNet](#), the [Information Technology Industry Council](#), and the [Voice On the Net Coalition](#), urged the chairmen and ranking members of the Senate Commerce Committee, the House Energy and Commerce Committee, and the House Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet to move forward on S. Res. 191 and H.Res. 1292 - companion resolutions that would establish the 100 Megabit broadband goals.

A copy of the letter can be downloaded by [clicking here](#).

The resolutions were introduced by Senator John D. Rockefeller IV (D-WV) and Representative Anna Eshoo (D-CA). As an interim step to a universal 100 Megabit service by 2015, they call for a universal 10 Mbps network capability by 2010 as proposed in [CWA's "Speed Matters" initiative](#).

In addition, the resolutions call for the development of a national strategy to achieve these goals through specific legislation and policies to be adopted by the end of 2009.

"By establishing these ambitious national goals, Congress can communicate to the nation a robust vision of telecommunications infrastructure which will encourage a vibrant economy and enhance the social welfare of all Americans," the organizations wrote. "We believe the Rockefeller-Eshoo resolution is an important measure for America's broadband future."

Joe Savage, president of the FTTH Council, noted that meeting the goals of the resolutions will be critical to the nation's global competitiveness. "Next-generation broadband at 100 Megabits is already widely available in countries like Japan and Korea, and other industrialized nations are moving forward with policies and national strategies to reach or exceed this goal in the near term," he said.

"They're doing this because in the Information Age, universal connectivity to ever-faster broadband is everything," he added. "Our members know that and are busy connecting American homes directly into fiber networks, thereby creating the infrastructure and capacity that will keep America at the forefront of the global broadband revolution. What we need is a national strategy and policy framework to provide a boost to these efforts and the 100 Megabit resolution in Congress is intended to jump-start that process."

About the Fiber-to-the-Home Council

Now in its seventh year, the Fiber-to-the-Home (FTTH) Council is a non-profit association consisting of companies and organizations that deliver video, Internet and/or voice services over high-bandwidth, next-generation, direct fiber optic connections - as well as those involved in planning and building FTTH networks. The Council works to create a cohesive group to share knowledge and build industry consensus on key issues surrounding fiber to the home. Its mission is to educate the public and government officials about FTTH solutions and to promote and accelerate deployment of fiber to the home and the resulting quality of life enhancements such networks make possible. More information about the Council can be found at www.ftthcouncil.org.

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