



**ALABAMA STATE SENATE
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TOM WHATLEY
SENATE DISTRICT 27
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CHAIRMAN
SENATE
AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION
& FORESTRY COMMITTEE

February 8, 2021

Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs
Director Ken Boswell
401 Adams Avenue
Montgomery, AL 36104

Director Boswell,

I believe that broadband is an essential feature of our community and investments in this critical infrastructure will help secure our County's future in the digital world. Broadband will help ensure that our business community remains competitive and is positioned to thrive in the new economy. In addition, it will help position Lee County as a smart community, attracting new high-tech jobs into our workforce and fostering growth of key industries. A foundation of advanced broadband will positively impact many aspects of our community, including economic development, education, safety and security and healthcare. In these aspects, broadband not only benefits our businesses but also the overall quality of life of our citizens. I state my support of Charter Communications grant application to the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs. I believe that these wise investments in broadband infrastructure made by the State will provide long-term benefits to our business community and our citizens' overall quality of life.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Whatley", is written over a large, stylized, looping flourish.

Tom Whatley
Senator, District 27