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April 17, 2018

Reference: Letter of Support – Tombigbee Communications

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is written in support of Tombigbee Communications' efforts to build a fiber infrastructure, called Freedom Fiber that will deliver speeds up to 10 GBPS and a minimum speed of 100 Mbps to rural Alabama. The expansion of the fiber optic network in Winston County and Northwest Alabama will benefit Lakeland Community Hospital and other health care providers in our area by increasing health care services and access.

There is a critical need for increased access to high speed internet services to enhance our efforts to bring specialists via telemedicine services to our Hospital and the medical community. Telemedicine capabilities will benefit local citizens with the opportunity to conference with their specialists in Birmingham and Huntsville yet remain in Winston County for their health care services.

The addition of a fiber infrastructure will support economic and workforce development by making Haleyville and the Winston County attractive for new industry to locate in the area as well as encourage our young people to return to Haleyville after college to work in their hometown.

On behalf of Lakeland Community Hospital and the medical community, we offer our support to the Tombigbee Communications fiber infrastructure initiative.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Debbie B. Pace". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Debbie" and last name "Pace" clearly visible.

Debbie B. Pace
Chief Executive Officer