



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882

December 15, 2017

Brad Schimel
Attorney General
State Capitol
Madison, WI

Dear Attorney General Schimel,

As you know the FCC repealed rules put in place under President Obama to make sure every citizen of the United States has equal access to the internet. As you also know, President Trump's FCC repealed those rules yesterday almost guaranteeing that Wisconsin consumers will soon be paying more for their internet and receiving less in the deal.

The FCC's decision comes amid serious questions as to allegations of fraud with respect to the public comment process. Among those allegations are that thousands of "fake or automated" comments rendered the public comment process and resulting decision process unfair. An investigation by the New York State's Attorney General's office found hundreds of thousands of submissions may have been made in the names of New York citizens without their permission or who are deceased, a violation of law. Attorneys General from 18 states believe there may be two million or more comments filed using stolen identities.

Beyond the questions surrounding the public comment process are even graver concerns with the impact the FCC's decision will have on internet access for consumers, the free exchange of speech and ideas and on those websites with which the government and corporate providers disagree or find to be a competitive threat.

The FCC's decision coincides with a pattern that exists within the current administration and Congress that favors corporations and the wealthy at the expense of average Americans. As a result of the FCC's ruling, consumers will likely see higher prices and fewer choices, and efforts to extend access to low-income families and residents living in rural areas of our state will be endangered. Additionally, the FCC's decision could have a harmful effect on small businesses, startups and others who cannot afford to pay Internet Services Providers higher fees for faster internet access that will in turn hurt our economy.

Attorneys general from around the country are stating publicly their intent to file lawsuits challenging the FCC's decision. On behalf of Wisconsin consumers, small businesses and entrepreneurs, we respectfully request that you join this fight to protect equal internet access for all.

Sincerely,

Dave Hansen
State Senator

Jennifer Shilling
State Senator

Fred Risser
State Senator



Robert Wirch
State Senator



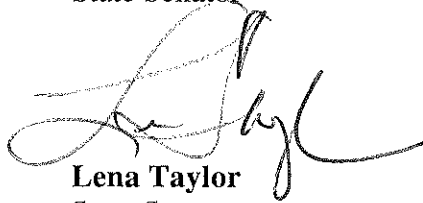
Janis Ringhand
State Senator



Tim Carpenter
State Senator



Kathleen Vinehout
State Senator



Lena Taylor
State Senator



Mark Miller
State Senator



Jon Erpenbach
State Senator



LaTonya Johnson
State Senator



Chris Larson
State Senator



Gordon Hintz
State Representative



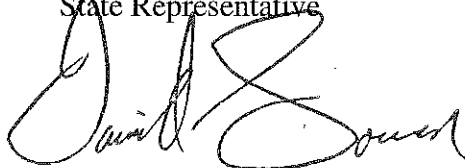
Dianne Hesselbein
State Representative



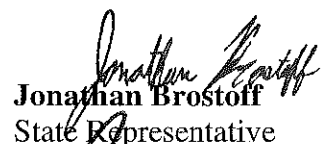
Mark Spreitzer
State Representative



Terece Berceau
State Representative

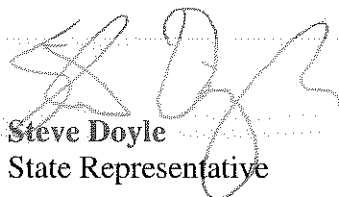


David Bowen
State Representative

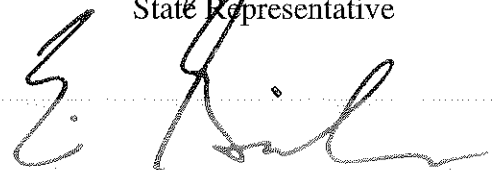


Jonathan Brostoff
State Representative

David Crowley
State Representative



Steve Doyle
State Representative



Eric Genrich
State Representative



Beth Meyers
State Representative



Tod Ohnstad
State Representative



Sondy Pope
State Representative



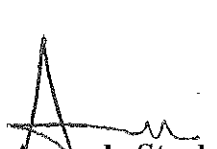
Melissa Sargent
State Representative



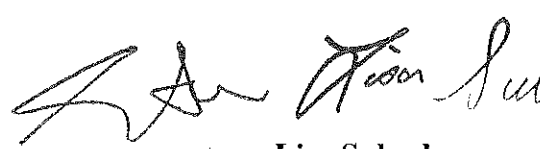
Katrina Shankland
State Representative




Christine Sinicki
State Representative




Amanda Stuck
State Representative



Lisa Subeck
State Representative



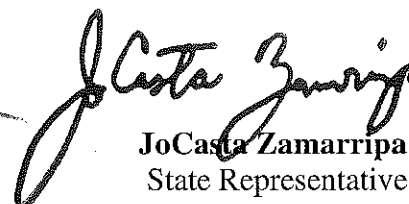
Chris Taylor
State Representative



Don Vruwink
State Representative



Dana Wachs
State Representative



JoCasta Zamarripa
State Representative



Jill Billings
State Representative



Janet Bewley
State Senator