

Nebraska State Legislature

SENATOR SUZANNE GEIST

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COMMITTEES

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Vice Chairperson - Transportation and
Telecommunications
Judiciary
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Reference

June 22, 2022

Attn: Cullen Robbins
Director of the Telecom/NUSF Department
Nebraska Public Service Commission
1200 N Street, Ste. 300
Lincoln, NE 68508

RE: Nebraska Broadband Bridge Program with Cox Communications – SUPPORT

Dear Mr. Robbins,

I am writing in strong support of Cox Communications' grant application to partner with the Nebraska Broadband Bridge Program to bridge the digital divide by removing barriers and partnering to increase broadband adoption and deploy additional infrastructure to bring more Nebraskans online.

As the Vice Chair of the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee, I introduced LB1214 to make changes to the Broadband Bridge Act. I introduced this bill to ensure that everyone would have the opportunity to be considered to partner with the Nebraska Broadband Bridge Program. The Transportation and Telecommunications Committee agreed with me, and we amended my bill into the Committee Priority bill which was passed by the Legislature with 46 votes.

I have been a member of the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee since I was elected. Our focus as a Legislature has been to ensure that everyone in Nebraska has access to modern broadband speeds and the infrastructure needed to meet customer needs today and into the future; furthermore, when the time comes for new internet subscribers to connect, it's important they have the support they need to navigate the technology.

I am confident that a partnership with Cox to remove barriers to broadband adoption and access will bring more Nebraskans online now. Cox's selection would result in a reliable and robust partner for the Nebraska Broadband Bridge Program's efforts in the expansion of access to and adoption of high-quality, reliable internet services for all Nebraskans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Suzanne Geist".

Senator Suzanne Geist
District 25