



VIA FAX

June 22, 2006

Dear Senator:

In preparation for the mark-up of H.R. 5252, the Communications, Consumers' Choice, and Broadband Deployment Act of 2006, the Communications Workers of America (CWA) encourages you to support the Kerry-Boxer amendment and other proposals that require broadband providers to build-out and upgrade their networks.

The Kerry-Boxer amendment establishes reasonable deployment targets for new video providers to expand service as they gain market share. New video providers would have no deployment targets for the first three years after they obtain a franchise. Within five years, and at two-year intervals, the franchise authority could require any video provider that has achieved at least 15 percent market share to expand by 20 percent the households to which it offers video service within its service area.

The Kerry-Boxer amendment, and other proposals that require broadband providers to build-out and upgrade their networks, would ensure that in exchange for streamlined video franchising we do not sacrifice our nation's historical commitment to universal service.

The U.S. is now 16th in broadband deployment, and falling. The Kerry-Boxer amendment, and other build-out proposals, is an important step to begin to reverse this serious policy failure.

In contrast, extremist net neutrality proposals that do not recognize the need for incentives to build high-speed networks to every home and community in America will slow investment in a universal high-speed Internet network.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Larry Cohen', written in a cursive style.

Larry Cohen
President

The letter was sent to the following:

Ted Stevens	David Vitter
John McCain	Daniel K. Inouye
Conrad Burns	John D. Rockefeller, IV
Trent Lott	John F. Kerry
Kay Bailey Hutchison	Byron L. Dorgan
Olympia J. Snowe	Barbara Boxer
Gordon Smith	Bill Nelson
John Ensign	Maria Cantwell
George Allen	Frank R. Lautenberg
John E. Sununu	Ben Nelson
Jim DeMint	Mark Pryor