Rural Life & Farming Transformed Through Wireless Broadband Technology

Modern communications laws will help attract additional private investment in state-of-the-art technologies to residents of rural Illinois.

With a modern communications law that promotes private broadband investment, Illinois can help rural residents and farm families take full advantage of new technologies to create jobs, advance public safety, improve education and health care access and keep rural residents connected to their friends and family.

Broadband technology improves the quality of life, connecting rural communities to important opportunities and resources.

Connecting for consumers and commerce - Mobile technology means geography and size no longer matter nearly as much as innovation, hard work and adaptability. Wireless communication allows typically isolated areas to connect no matter the distance.

Connecting for distance learning - With distance learning, small school districts can access teachers and curriculum from around the world. Teachers can provide virtual instruction in multiple districts at once and online college classes can help keep young talent in small towns and engaged in family businesses.

Connecting for telemedicine - Telemedicine provides access to specialized physicians located anywhere without the need to travel, reducing costs and increasing access to specialized medical care. Remote monitoring and electronic medical records ensure that patients receive the most accurate diagnosis and timely care possible.

Connecting for Agriculture - High-speed mobile broadband benefits are endless for farmers, farm families and small business leaders in rural areas.

Wireless provides real advantages for farmers:

- Agri-business: Connecting to real-time stock and feed prices
- Precision farming: GPS guided planting allows for perfectly aligned plant rows
- Weather alerts: Immediate and precise weather information
- Repairing farm implements wirelessly: Wireless diagnostics work on an implement in the field - from a technician miles away

High-speed Internet makes everyday life more efficient, productive and safer in rural communities. It’s important we create policies that encourage broadband infrastructure and investment and ensure no American is left behind in the digital age.

In Illinois, a modern communications policy and more private broadband investment will keep rural Illinoisans connected