

ASSURANCES - NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0040), Washington, DC 20503.

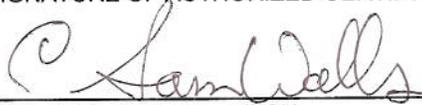
PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

NOTE: Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the awarding agency. Further, certain Federal awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project cost) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of the project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
4. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
5. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
6. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee-3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and, (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.
7. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
8. Will comply, as applicable, with provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.

9. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333), regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.
10. Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
11. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).
12. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
13. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).
14. Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.
15. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. §§2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.
16. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
18. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.

| | |
|--|---|
| SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL  | TITLE  |
| APPLICANT ORGANIZATION  | DATE SUBMITTED March 9, 2010 |

BTOP Sustainable Broadband Adoption Community Anchor Institution Detail Template

Please complete the Anchor Institution Details worksheet by providing information on Community Anchor Institutions that will be directly involved in or benefit from the project. Add rows as necessary. All community anchor institutions should be given a specified list. A Community Anchor Institution is considered a minority-serving institution post-secondary educational institution with enrollment of minority students exceeding total enrollment. The "Role" column only requires a word or two, or a short phrase, no explanation. A detailed explanation of the role of project partners and community anchor institutions should be provided in the essay portions of the application.

The data provided via this template will be subject to automated processing. Applicants are therefore required to provide this upload as an Excel file, and not to convert it to a PDF upload. Additionally, applicants should not modify the format of this file.

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BTOP SBA Community Anchor Institutions Detail Template

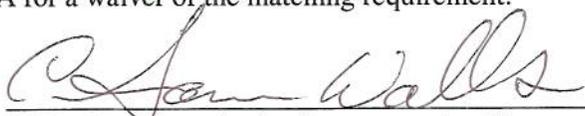
Title: **Expanding Broadband Use in Arkansas Through Education**
 Easy Grants ID: **6351**

| Facility Name | Organization | Address Line 1 | City | State | Zip | Facility Type | Minority Serving Institution Type | Project Role |
|--|--|-----------------------------|---------------|-------|-------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Arkansas Children's Hospital | Arkansas Children's Hospital | 1 Children's Way | Little Rock | AR | 72202 | Medical or Healthcare Provider | N/A | Participant |
| Arkansas Heart Hospital | Arkansas Heart Hospital | 1701 S. Shackelford Rd. | Little Rock | AR | 72211 | Medical or Healthcare Provider | N/A | Participant |
| Arkansas Methodist Hospital | Arkansas Methodist Hospital | 900 Kingshighway | Paragould | AR | 72450 | Medical or Healthcare Provider | N/A | Participant |
| Baptist Health Medical Center | Baptist Health Medical Center | | Akadelphia | AR | | Medical or Healthcare Provider | N/A | Participant |
| Baxter Regional Medical Center | Baxter Regional Medical Center | 624 Hospital Drive | Mountain Home | AR | 72653 | Medical or Healthcare Provider | N/A | Participant |
| Bradley County Medical Center | Bradley County Medical Center | | Warren | AR | 71671 | Medical or Healthcare Provider | N/A | Participant |
| Carroll Regional Medical Center | Carroll Regional Medical Center | 214 Carter Street | Berryville | AR | 72616 | Medical or Healthcare Provider | N/A | Participant |
| Central Arkansas Hospital | Central Arkansas Hospital | | Searcy | AR | 72143 | Medical or Healthcare Provider | N/A | Participant |
| Conway Regional Health System | Conway Regional Health System | 2302 College Ave. | Conway | AR | 72034 | Medical or Healthcare Provider | N/A | Participant |
| Crawford Memorial Hospital | Crawford Memorial Hospital | 5811 Pelican Way Blvd. | Van Buren | AR | 72956 | Medical or Healthcare Provider | N/A | Participant |
| Crittenden Memorial | Crittenden Memorial | | West Memphis | AR | 72301 | Medical or Healthcare Provider | N/A | Participant |
| Drew Memorial Hospital | Drew Memorial Hospital | 778 Scogin Drive | Monticello | AR | 71655 | Medical or Healthcare Provider | N/A | Participant |
| Hot Spring County Medical Center | Hot Spring County Medical Center | 1001 Schneider Drive | Malvery | AR | 72104 | Medical or Healthcare Provider | N/A | Participant |
| Jefferson Regional Medical Center | Jefferson Regional Medical Center | 1600 W. 40th Ave. | Pine Bluff | AR | 71603 | Medical or Healthcare Provider | N/A | Participant |
| Johnson Regional Medical Center | Johnson Regional Medical Center | 1100 E. Poplar Street | Clarksville | AR | 72830 | Medical or Healthcare Provider | N/A | Participant |
| Levi Hospital | Levi Hospital | 300 Prospect Ave. | Hot Springs | AR | 71901 | Medical or Healthcare Provider | N/A | Participant |
| Medical Center of South Arkansas | Medical Center of South Arkansas | 700 W. Grove Street | El Dorado | AR | 71730 | Medical or Healthcare Provider | N/A | Participant |
| Medical Park Hospital | Medical Park Hospital | | Hope | AR | 71801 | Medical or Healthcare Provider | N/A | Participant |
| Mena Medical Center | Mena Medical Center | 311 N. Morrow | Mena | AR | 71953 | Medical or Healthcare Provider | N/A | Participant |
| National Park Medical Center | National Park Medical Center | 1910 Malvern Ave. | Hot Springs | AR | 71901 | Medical or Healthcare Provider | N/A | Participant |
| North Arkansas Regional Medical Center | North Arkansas Regional Medical Center | 620 N. Main Street | Harrison | AR | 72601 | Medical or Healthcare Provider | N/A | Participant |
| Northwest Medical Center | Northwest Medical Center | 3000 Medical Center Parkway | Bentonville | AR | 72712 | Medical or Healthcare Provider | N/A | Participant |
| Ouachita County Medical Center | Ouachita County Medical Center | | Camden | AR | 71701 | Medical or Healthcare Provider | N/A | Participant |
| Rebsamen Regional Medical Center | Rebsamen Regional Medical Center | | Jacksonville | AR | 72076 | Medical or Healthcare Provider | N/A | Participant |
| Regional Medical Center of NEA | Regional Medical Center of NEA | | Jonesboro | AR | 72401 | Medical or Healthcare Provider | N/A | Participant |

**U.S. Department of Commerce
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program
Authentication and Certifications**

1. I certify that I am the duly Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) of the applicant organization, and that I have been authorized to submit the attached application on its behalf.
2. I certify that I have examined this application, that all of the information and responses in this application, including certifications, and forms submitted, all of which are part of this grant application, are material representations of fact and true and correct to the best of my knowledge, that the entity(ies) that is requesting grant funding pursuant to this application and any subgrantees and subcontractors will comply with the terms, conditions, purposes, and federal requirements of the grant program; that no kickbacks were paid to anyone; and that a false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims on this application are grounds for denial or termination of a grant award, and/or possible punishment by a fine or imprisonment as provided in 18 U.S.C. §1001 and civil violations of the False Claims Act.
3. I certify that the entity(ies) I represent have and will comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, codes, orders and programmatic rules and requirements relating to the project. I acknowledge that failure to do so may result in rejection or deobligation of the grant or loan award. I acknowledge that failure to comply with all federal and program rules could result in civil or criminal prosecution by the appropriate law enforcement authorities.
4. I certify that the entity(ies) I represent has and will comply with all applicable administrative and federal statutory, regulatory, and policy requirements set forth in the Department of Commerce Pre-Award Notification Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements ("DOC Pre-Award Notification"), published in the Federal Register on February 11, 2008 (73 FR 7696), as amended; DOC Financial Assistance Standard Terms and Conditions (Mar. 8, 2009); the Department of Commerce American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Award Terms (Apr. 9, 2009); and any Special Award Terms and Conditions that are included by the Grants Officer in the award.
5. I certify that any funds awarded to the entity(ies) I represent as a result of this application will not result in any unjust enrichment of such entity(ies) or duplicate any funds such entity(ies) receive under federal universal service support programs administered by the Universal Service Administrative Corporation (USAC).
6. I certify that the entity(ies) I represent has secured access to pay the 20% of total project cost or has petitioned the Assistant Secretary of NTIA for a waiver of the matching requirement.

3-10-10
Date

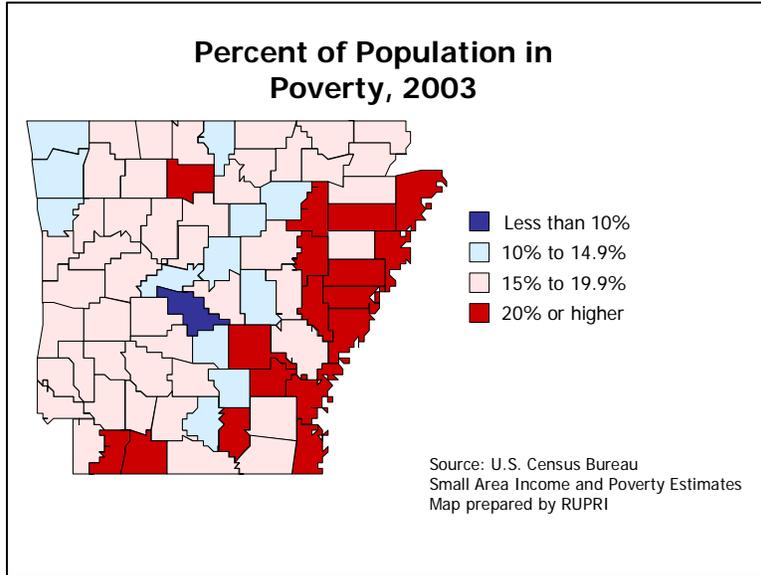

Authorized Organization Representative Signature

SAM WALLS
Print Name

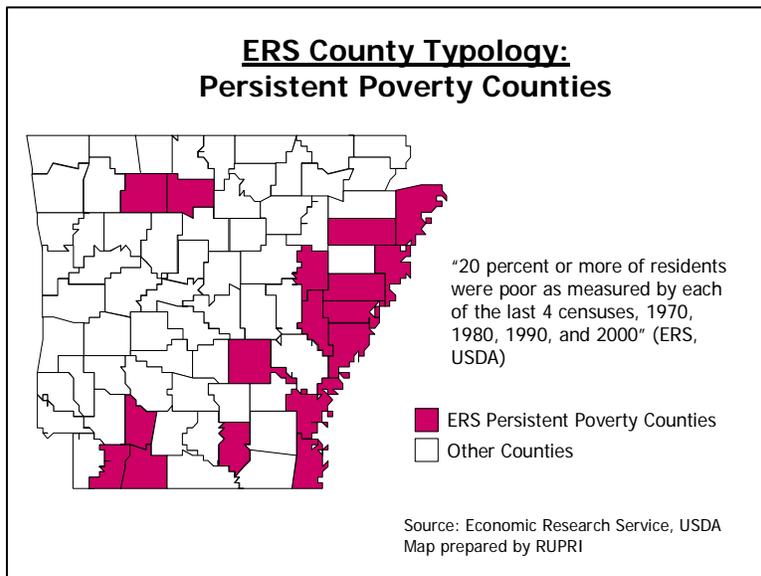
President
Title

Poverty

The poverty rate in Arkansas in 2003 was 16.0 percent, compared to 12.5 percent for the U.S. (Census Bureau estimates). Within Arkansas, the 2003 poverty rate ranged from 9.4 percent in Saline County to 29.1 percent in Lee County.

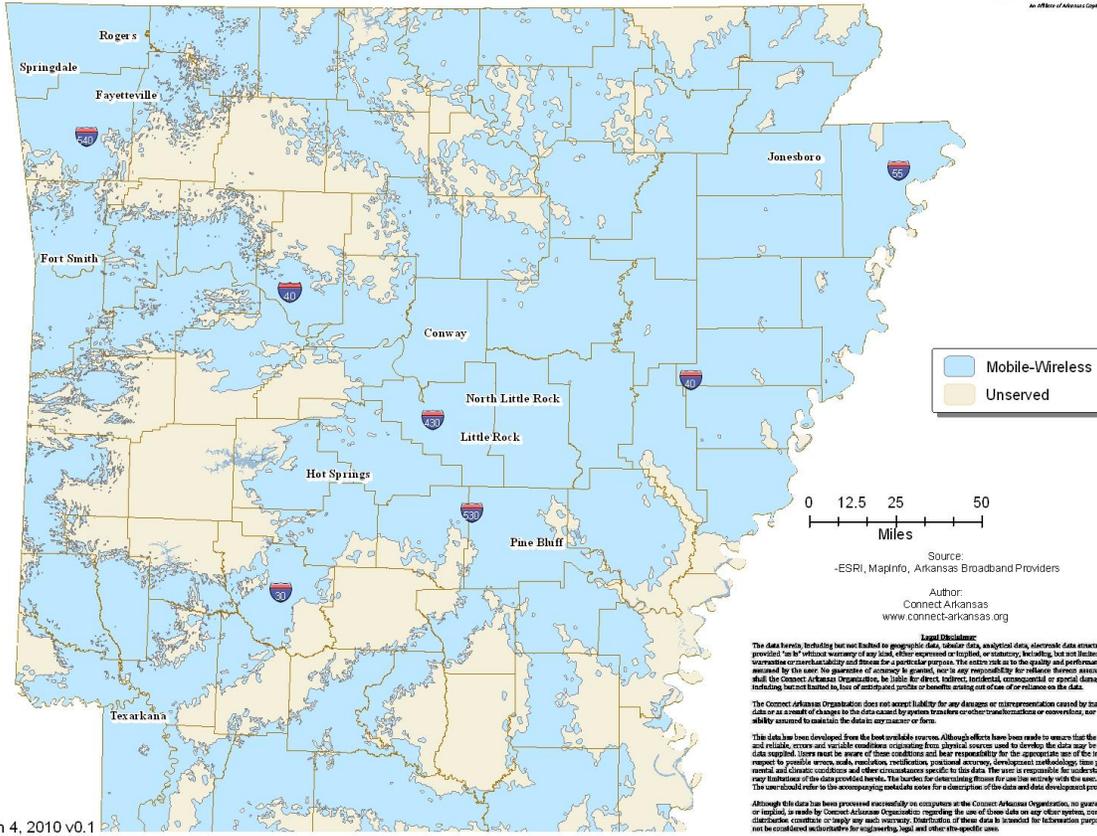


The Economic Research Service classifies counties as persistent poverty counties if they experienced poverty rates of 20 percent or higher in each census from 1970 through 2000. There are 386 persistent poverty counties in the U.S., and 17 are located in Arkansas (3 metro and 14 nonmetro counties).



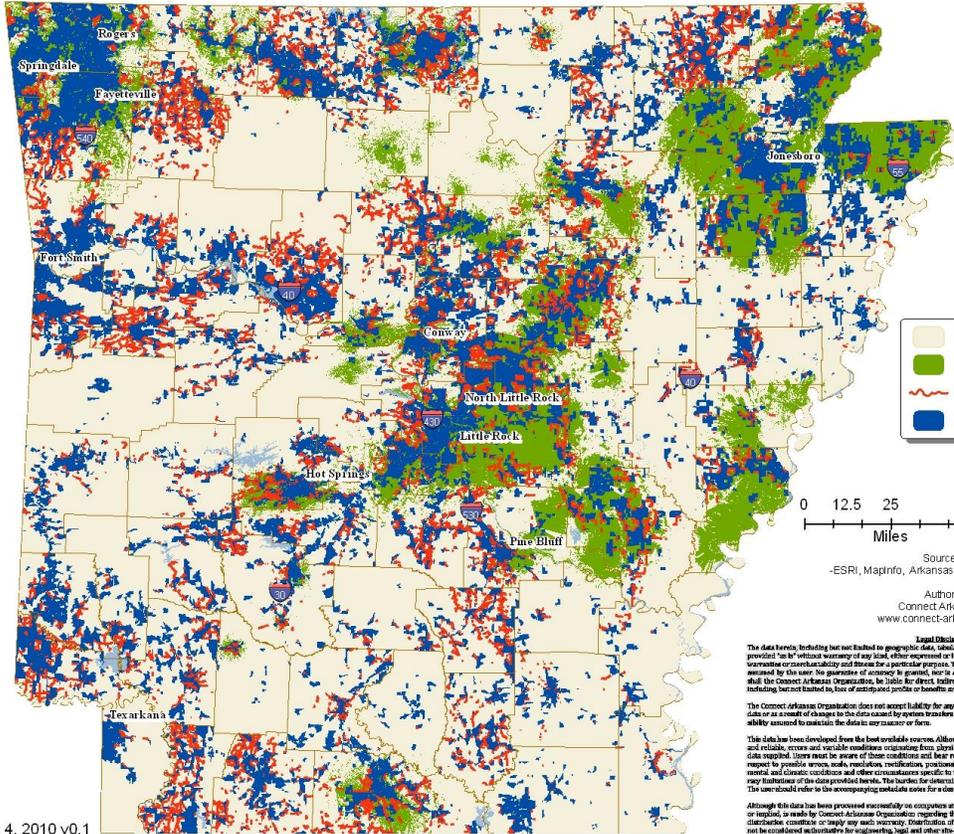


Arkansas Mobile-Wireless Broadband Availability

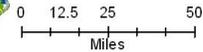


March 4, 2010 v0.1

Arkansas Wireline/Fixed-Wireless Broadband Availability



- Unserviced
- Fixed-Wireless
- Wireline Street Segments
- Wireline Census Blocks



Source: -ESRI, MapInfo, Arkansas Broadband Providers

Author: Connect-Arkansas
www.connect-arkansas.org

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March 4, 2010 v0.1

**BTOP Public Computer Center and Sustainable Broadband Adoption
Detailed Budget Template**

Easy Grants ID: **6351**
 Applicant: Connect Arkansas
 Project Title: Expanding Broadband Use in Arkansas through Education

| SF-424A Object Class Category | General | | | Detail | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|----------|-------------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| | Position | Federal Support | Matching Support | Total | # of Positions | Salary | % Time Spent on Project | Quarters Employed | Total |
| a. Personnel - List position, number of staff, annual salaries, % time spent on project | Connect Management | \$137,456 | \$137,457 | \$274,913 | 6 | \$89,841 | 17% | 12 | \$274,913 |
| | Program Director | \$135,000 | \$135,000 | \$270,000 | 1 | \$90,000 | 100% | 12 | \$270,000 |
| | Program Training Specialist | \$97,500 | \$97,500 | \$195,000 | 1 | \$65,000 | 100% | 12 | \$195,000 |
| | Compliance Officer | \$60,000 | \$60,000 | \$120,000 | 1 | \$80,000 | 50% | 12 | \$120,000 |
| | Administrative Support | \$26,250 | \$26,250 | \$52,500 | 1 | \$35,000 | 50% | 12 | \$52,500 |
| Subtotal | | \$456,206 | \$456,207 | \$912,413 | | | | | |

| b. Fringe Benefits - Include salaries and fringe rate. | Position | Federal Support | Matching Support | Total | # of Positions | Salary | % Time Spent on Project | Quarters Employed | Fringe Rate | Total |
|--|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|----------|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------|----------|
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Connect Management | \$35,738 | \$35,739 | \$71,477 | 6 | \$89,841 | 17% | 12 | 26% | \$71,477 |
| | Program Director | \$35,100 | \$35,100 | \$70,200 | 1 | \$90,000 | 100% | 12 | 26% | \$70,200 |
| | Program Training Specialist | \$25,350 | \$25,350 | \$50,700 | 1 | \$65,000 | 100% | 12 | 26% | \$50,700 |
| | Compliance Officer | \$15,600 | \$15,600 | \$31,200 | 1 | \$80,000 | 50% | 12 | 26% | \$31,200 |
| | Administrative Support | \$6,825 | \$6,825 | \$13,650 | 1 | \$35,000 | 50% | 12 | 26% | \$13,650 |
| Subtotal | | \$118,613 | \$118,614 | \$237,227 | | | | | | |

| c. Travel - For significant costs, include details such as number and purpose of trips, destinations. | Purpose of Trip | Federal Support | Matching Support | Total | # of Trips | Cost per Trip | Total |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------|---------------|----------|
| | | | | | | | |
| 192 trips/workshops planned. Average distance is 300 miles round trip in the car @ .50 a mile. 92 classrooms for 3 years = 270 visits. Average distance 300 miles round trip in the car @ .50 a mile = \$40,500 | Technology Training Workshops | \$28,800 | \$0 | \$28,800 | 192 | \$150.00 | \$28,800 |
| | Entrepreneurship Training Program | \$40,500 | \$0 | \$40,500 | 270 | \$150.00 | \$40,500 |
| Subtotal | | \$69,300 | \$0 | \$69,300 | | | |

| d. Equipment Costs - List equipment with # of units and unit costs. Distinguish between equipment intended for applicant use versus equipment for the end user. | Equipment Description | Federal Support | Matching Support | Total | #Units | Unit Cost | Total |
|---|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------|-----------|------------|
| | | | | | | | |
| Applicant Equipment | | | | | | | |
| | Dell Latitude Laptop computers | \$2,400 | \$0 | \$2,400 | 2 | \$1,200 | \$2,400 |
| | HP Color Laserjet Printer | \$600 | \$0 | \$600 | 1 | \$600 | \$600 |
| | U.S. Sourcelink Software | \$75,000 | \$0 | \$75,000 | 1 | \$75,000 | \$75,000 |
| | Sourcelink Subscription/Support services | \$26,000 | \$0 | \$26,000 | 2 | \$13,000 | \$26,000 |
| User Equipment | | | | | | | |
| Subtotal | | \$104,000 | \$0 | \$104,000 | | | \$0 |

| e. Supplies - List costs associated with materials/printing, curriculum, translations, and other supplies | Description | Federal Support | Matching Support | Total | #Units (if Applicable) | Unit Cost (if Applicable) | Total |
|---|-------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------|------------------------|---------------------------|------------|
| | | | | | | | |
| | Training supplies (office supplies) | \$3,600 | \$0 | \$3,600 | 36 | \$100 | \$3,600 |
| Subtotal | | \$3,600 | \$0 | \$3,600 | | | \$0 |

| f. Contractual - List contractors with purpose of contract, hourly rate or total fixed rate. | Contractor | Federal Support | Matching Support | Total | # Hours (If Applicable) | Hourly Rate (If Applicable) | Total Contract |
|---|---|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| | LRS D Computers for Kids - 1710 refurbished computers @ \$99.00 per unit | \$149,290 | \$20,000 | \$169,290 | | | \$169,290 |
| | University of Arkansas at Monticello (304 hours of instructions @150 per hourx3) | \$112,856 | \$23,944 | \$136,800 | | | \$136,800 |
| | Arkansas Economic Acceleration Foundation -- Executive Director \$85,000 @ 25% of their time = \$21,250; Vice-President \$85,000 @ 60% of her time = 51,000, and intern @ \$27,750 for 1st year of project. | \$50,000 | \$50,000 | \$100,000 | | | \$100,000 |
| University of Arkansas Medical Sciences: | | | | | | | |
| | Principle Investigator | \$5,040 | \$0 | \$5,040 | 42 | \$120 | \$5,040 |
| | Clinical & Educational Director | \$34,944 | \$0 | \$34,944 | 832 | \$42 | \$34,944 |
| | Program Manager | \$126,256 | \$0 | \$126,256 | 4,160 | \$30 | \$126,256 |
| | Outreach Coordinator | \$39,936 | \$0 | \$39,936 | 832 | \$48 | \$39,936 |
| | Education Curriculum Director | \$94,692 | \$0 | \$94,692 | 3,120 | \$30 | \$94,692 |
| | Video Producer | \$31,564 | \$0 | \$31,564 | 1,040 | \$30 | \$31,564 |
| | Outreach Worker | \$85,207 | \$0 | \$85,207 | 3,120 | \$27 | \$85,207 |
| | Suppline Line Technologist (2 positions) | \$166,632 | \$0 | \$166,632 | 4,992 | \$33 | \$166,632 |
| | Broadband Health Instructor | \$25,251 | \$0 | \$25,251 | 1,040 | \$24 | \$25,251 |
| | Web Developer | \$28,402 | \$0 | \$28,402 | 1,040 | \$27 | \$28,402 |
| | Travel (20 trips, for 5 employees per diem/mileage \$150: 20 x 5 x150= \$15,000. Mileage 10,714 for 5 employees @0.42 cents/mile = \$22,500.) | \$37,500 | \$0 | \$37,500 | | | \$37,500 |
| | Supplies (General Office; DVD's and CD's for data storage) | \$5,660 | \$0 | \$5,660 | | | \$5,660 |
| | Public Awareness Campaign -- Radio: \$260 production + 50 spots/\$400ads = \$20,260; TV: \$3500 production costs + 7 spots/\$7320 = \$54,740; printing \$5000; and 8 computers @ \$1500 for ACT staff = \$12,000) | \$92,000 | \$0 | \$92,000 | | | \$92,000 |
| | ACT Training Center Fee (15 classes x \$3333 per class) | \$49,995 | \$0 | \$49,995 | 15 | \$3,333 | \$49,995 |
| | Training Equipment: Audio Visual | \$0 | \$95,000 | \$95,000 | | | \$95,000 |
| | Custom Recording and Streaming Package | \$0 | \$40,000 | \$40,000 | | | \$40,000 |
| | Custom Telemedicine Consultation Room | \$0 | \$125,000 | \$125,000 | | | \$125,000 |
| | Video Conference System | \$0 | \$40,000 | \$40,000 | | | \$40,000 |
| | Subtotal | \$1,135,225 | \$393,944 | \$1,529,169 | | | |

| g. Construction - If applicable, list construction costs | Description | Federal Support | Matching Support | Total |
|---|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| | | | | \$0 |
| | | | | \$0 |
| | Subtotal | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |

| h. Other - List costs associated with grant subrecipients as well as other costs not listed above such as rent, technology (website hosting, internet connection), advertising (TV, radio, online), etc. | Description | Federal Support | Matching Support | Total | #Units (If Applicable) | Unit Cost (If Applicable) | Total |
|--|---|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| | Furniture | \$0 | \$10,000 | \$10,000 | 2 | \$5,000 | \$10,000 |
| | Postage & Shipping | \$7,500 | \$0 | \$7,500 | | | \$7,500 |
| | Meeting Supplies | \$3,600 | \$0 | \$3,600 | 36 | \$100 | \$3,600 |
| | Professional Development | \$9,000 | \$0 | \$9,000 | 3 | \$3,000 | \$9,000 |
| | Phones | \$54,000 | \$0 | \$54,000 | 36 | \$1,500 | \$54,000 |
| | T1 Internet connection subscription | \$23,328 | \$0 | \$23,328 | 36 | \$648 | \$23,328 |
| | Rent - Office Space (4th floor, 2,269.93 square feet @ 17.20 p/square feet cost p/year = 39,043. 3rd. Floor 754.60 square feet @20.95 p/square feet, cost per year: \$15,808. Total for both floors: \$54852.00 per year) | \$164,556 | \$0 | \$164,556 | 3 | \$54,852 | \$164,556 |
| | Accounting | \$72,000 | \$0 | \$72,000 | | | \$72,000 |
| | Annual Reports | \$15,000 | \$0 | \$15,000 | | | \$15,000 |
| | Legal Services | \$72,000 | \$0 | \$72,000 | 36 | \$2,000 | \$72,000 |
| Marketing & Advertising Awareness Campaign: | | | \$0 | | | | |
| | Print ads includes print ads in newspapers, business publications, magazines. | \$70,000 | \$0 | \$70,000 | | | \$70,000 |
| | Press Kits | \$1,200 | \$0 | \$1,200 | | | \$1,200 |
| | Media Ads -- Radio: \$260 production + 50 spots/\$400ads = \$20,260; TV: \$3500 production costs + 7 spots/\$7320 = \$54,740 | \$75,000 | \$0 | \$75,000 | | | \$75,000 |
| | Speakers Bureau (travel 12x 100miles @ .50 per mile + \$50/day expenses per year. | \$3,600 | \$0 | \$3,600 | | | \$3,600 |
| | Festival Booths (Exhibit \$3000 + travel 20trips 100miles @ .50 per mile + \$50/day) | \$9,000 | \$0 | \$9,000 | | | \$9,000 |
| | E-Community meetings and events | \$6,000 | \$0 | \$6,000 | | | \$6,000 |
| | Sponsorship of School Programs | \$5,000 | \$0 | \$5,000 | | | \$5,000 |
| | Broadband Summit | \$57,380 | \$0 | \$57,380 | | | \$57,380 |
| | Information Packets (500 @\$5.00 ea.) | \$2,500 | \$0 | \$2,500 | | | \$2,500 |
| | Community Events Sponsorship (25 events @ \$1000 (rural communities' sponsorships to support broadband awareness and adoption events). | \$25,000 | \$0 | \$25,000 | | | \$25,000 |
| | Mailings (Printing 500 postcards @ \$3 each and mailing at \$.44) | \$1,720 | \$0 | \$1,720 | | | \$1,720 |
| | Telling the Internet Story (1 staff member making 20 trips/year; average 100 miles/trip @ .50 day plus \$50/day expenses) | \$6,000 | \$0 | \$6,000 | | | \$6,000 |
| Entrepreneurial Curriculum : | | | | | | | |
| | Instructors - Year One will employ 3 Full Time Instructors @32,000. Year Two will employ 7 Full time Instructors @32,000 each per year each, and the third year will employ 13instructors for \$32,000 a year.) | \$736,000 | \$0 | \$736,000 | | | \$736,000 |
| | Program supplies and materials | \$10,000 | \$0 | \$10,000 | | | \$10,000 |
| | On-line business start-up costs (web services, hosting, domain name)for 1530 students @\$100 per student | \$153,000 | \$0 | \$153,000 | | | \$153,000 |
| Subtotal | | \$1,582,384 | \$10,000 | \$1,592,384 | | | |

| | | | |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| i. Total Direct Charges (sum of a-h) | \$3,469,328 | \$978,765 | \$4,448,093 |
| j. Indirect Charges | \$233,410 | \$58,482 | \$291,892 |
| Total Eligible Project Costs | \$3,702,738 | \$1,037,247 | \$4,739,985 |
| Match Percentage | 21.9% | | |

Explanation of Indirect Charges

Connect Arkansas contracts with its' parent company, Arkansas Capital Corporation, for administrative and book keeping services. These indirect charges cover all the services provided by ACC, which equals a total of 10% in indirect charges.

Additional Budget Notes

Connect Arkansas – BTOP Management Team and Organization Chart

C. Sam Walls, President: C. Sam Walls is a native Arkansan who has spent the last thirty-seven years engaged in private enterprises in a variety of sectors. Those activities have included a significant amount of time involved in entrepreneurial activity. He joined Arkansas Capital Corporation in May 1989 at a time in which the organization needed to be revitalized. During his tenure, Arkansas Capital Corporation has added seven affiliate companies and participated in putting over \$900 million dollars into Arkansas companies. Today, Arkansas Capital Corporation is a highly-respected organization that is proactively engaged in building Arkansas based enterprises through access to capital, entrepreneurial education and business development. In particular, Arkansas Capital Corporation has been a leading advocate for the teaching of entrepreneurship within the K-16 educational system and for promoting broadband access and education for Arkansas. Over the last ten years, Mr. Walls and Arkansas Capital Corporation have been at the forefront in promoting the utilization of entrepreneurship and, more recently, broadband as an integral part of the Arkansas economic development process. For the past several years, Mr. Walls has been annually referred by a leading business publication as one of the most influential businessmen in Arkansas.

Current Titles and Boards

- Federal Reserve of Saint Louis (Little Rock Branch)
- Arkansas Capital Corporation-Chief Executive Officer & Secretary-Treasurer
- Arkansas Capital Relending Corporation-President
- Arkansas Economic Acceleration Corporation-President
- Arkansas Economic Acceleration Foundation-Chairman
- Commerce Capital Development Company, LLC-President
- Connect Arkansas-President
- Diamond State Ventures-Chairman
- Heartland Renaissance Fund-Chief Executive Officer
- Accelerate Arkansas-Member

Leslie Lane, Sr. Vice President: Leslie Lane, Senior Vice President of Connect Arkansas, is a Financial Services Executive with fourteen years of experience in economic development, finance, and portfolio management. He has a strong management, marketing, and financial analysis background and extensive experience in innovating and structuring financing packages. Leslie has been quoted in numerous business publications and brings additional expertise in the areas of Strategic Planning, Product Development, Marketing Analysis, Financial Analysis & Modeling, Due Diligence, Sourcing Deal Flow, Portfolio Management, and Private Equity Markets.

From 1997-2005, Leslie Lane served as Vice President of Finance at the Arkansas Science and Technology Authority. During this time, he managed a state sponsored investment portfolio and oversaw all aspects of the transactions, evaluating investment opportunities, analyzing business plans, creating financial projections, performing competitive industry analysis and generating financial reporting documents. In this capacity, he also collaborated and continues to collaborate with the Arkansas Development Finance Authority and Arkansas Department of Economic Development to foster a private equity industry in Arkansas.

In addition to serving as Senior Vice President of Connect Arkansas, through AEAF, Leslie manages the entrepreneurship educational activities associated with the Foundation including: Donald W Reynolds Governors Cup, YES for Arkansas and the Arkansas Venture Forum. Through the Heartland Renaissance Fund, he also manages a cumulative \$70 million investment portfolio.

Connect Arkansas – BTOP Management Team and Organization Chart

Over his lifetime, Leslie Lane has been the recipient of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock 2004 CyberPartner Award, 2003 “Forty Under Forty” Designation by Arkansas Business Publishing Group, 2002 National Tibbetts Award by the Small Business Administration, and 2001- 2003 Public Official of the Year Award by the Arkansas Technology Transfer Society. He is also a Co-founder of the Arkansas Venture Capital Conference.

Sam Walls III, Sr. Vice President: Sam Walls is the Senior Vice President of Connect Arkansas and President of the Arkansas Economic Acceleration Foundation (AEAF), both of which are affiliates of the Arkansas Capital Corporation Group.

Born and raised in Little Rock, Arkansas, he attended college at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, and returned to Little Rock to attend the University of Arkansas at Little Rock William H. Bowen School of Law. Upon graduating from law school in 1996 and passing the state bar, he worked for the Baptist Health Foundation as their Director of Planned Giving. Two years later, he was recruited by The Hartford to represent that company with their Arkansas clients, primarily stockbrokers. In 2002, he left The Hartford to work for Arkansas Capital Corporation. His primary role at Arkansas Capital Corporation is to support the growth of entrepreneurship in Arkansas. To that end, he helps use state and federal tax credits to support Arkansas businesses and the development of venture capital.

Arkansas Capital Corporation, through its affiliate Connect Arkansas, has also been a leading advocate for the preparation and education of Arkansans regarding the benefits of broadband use, as well as, for the facilitation of broadband to every Arkansas home and business. Through AEAF, which actively engages in any and all activities that will educate, promote, the development of innovation, entrepreneurship, and venture capital formation with the State of Arkansas, Sam Walls III has been involved in the Arkansas Venture Forum, Techpreneur, Youth Entrepreneurial Showcase, Historically Black Colleges and Universities Business Plan Competition, and the Donald W. Reynolds Governor’s Cup Collegiate Business Plan Competition. He recently graduated from the Leadership Greater Little Rock program and was recently named as Arkansas’s “Top 40 under 40.”

Eileen Denne, Senior Vice President, Connect Arkansas: Eileen Denne joined Connect Arkansas in March 2010 as Senior Vice President. Eileen has extensive experience as a trade association executive communicating the importance of the aviation, travel and transportation industries to a variety of stakeholders. Before joining Connect Arkansas, Eileen served as Senior Vice President of Communications and Marketing for Airports Council International-North America, based in Washington, D.C., representing major airports in the U.S. and Canada. At ACI-NA, she was responsible for public, community and media relations, public affairs advocacy, board and committee relations, marketing, member communications and branding.

Prior to ACI-NA, Eileen served in communications and marketing leadership roles for the American Society of Travel Agents, the American Association of Port Authorities, and National Association for Small Business Investment Companies. She has also worked for major corporations including Borden Inc., the Travelers, and CPC International.

Michelle Stockman, Vice President: Michelle Stockman is a Vice President for Connect Arkansas, the Program Manager of the Arkansas Economic Acceleration Foundation (both of which are affiliates of the Arkansas Capital Corporation Group) and the Business Development Manager for Arkansas Capital Corporation.

Connect Arkansas – BTOP Management Team and Organization Chart

Born and raised in Chicago, IL, Michelle received her B.A. in Communications from Loyola University Chicago. She later moved to North Carolina where she received her Masters in Business and Entrepreneurship from Western Carolina University. Michelle began her career in various marketing and communications roles that eventually led her to open and run her first small business in North Carolina.

Michelle became involved in managing a multi-million dollar statewide grant program that involved over 30 private, public and non-profit organizations across a wide variety of local, county and state governments (including the e-NC Authority). She holds a Certificate in Nonprofit Management from Duke University.

Ms. Stockman was recruited to Arkansas to open and operate the state's first community entrepreneurship service support organization in Fort Smith. Through her work in Fort Smith, she managed the development and implementation of programs and services aimed at supporting entrepreneurs and their businesses. Michelle later joined the staff at Arkansas Capital Corporation Group and Connect Arkansas to apply her program and nonprofit management experience towards broadband and entrepreneurship development.

Ms. Stockman has recently been named Northwest Arkansas's "40 Under 40" by the Northwest Arkansas Business Journal. She actively participates on the Small Business Committee for the Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce; the Economic Development Committee for the Bentonville/Bella Vista Chamber of Commerce; Entrepreneurship Advisory Committees for NorthArk College and the Northwest Arkansas Community College; and she writes weekly business information columns for TheCityWire.com and Biz2Biz Magazine.

Grace Morrissey, Grants Compliance Manager: Grace joined Connect Arkansas staff on November 2009. During the last four years, Grace has been reporting federal, state and private grants and doing the bookkeeping for non-profits. She is very experienced applying federal regulations to the day to day bookkeeping activities in a non-profit organization. Grace has an Accounting Diploma from Ashworth University and she is currently studying Accounting at Arkansas State University and preparing to get certified as QuickBooks Pro Advisor.

Born and raised in El Salvador, Central America, Grace attended three years in Law School and later she attended Fashion Design School. She came to the United States in 2002 to work as ESL-Parent Liaison in Sunflower, Mississippi Elementary School. During this time she volunteered at the Community Clinic on weekends interpreting for doctors and Hispanic patients.

After a year she decided to come to Arkansas to be closer to her family. In Arkansas she has worked in the billing department for Arkansas Times, El Latino newspaper billing department and also doing advertising and websites translations from English into Spanish for print and electronic media. Later, she went to work at the Democrat-Gazette assisting with co-op advertising in the billing department.

Arkansas Literacy Councils is awarded every year with Federal, State and Private grants which are distributed following each grantor regulations and conditions among the 52 literacy councils. As an Office Finance Manager, Grace collected and supervised all expenditures reported from the Literacy Councils to elaborate monthly and quarterly expenditure reports to be presented to Grantors. Grace also did the bookkeeping and prepared financials for board meetings and audits.



STATE OF ARKANSAS

MIKE BEEBE
GOVERNOR

March 9, 2010

The Honorable Gary Locke, Secretary
U.S. Department of Commerce (NTIA)
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Mr. Secretary:

As Governor of Arkansas, I recognize the vital importance of broadband Internet access for all of our citizens. As you know, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act has dedicated \$7.2 billion for accelerating broadband deployment to areas of the country without high-speed infrastructure. I understand that the Commerce Department's National Telecommunication and Information Administration (NTIA) is currently seeking applications for Sustainable Adoption and Public Access. These competitive grants will go toward funding innovative concepts that help drive the widespread adoption of broadband and ensure that our citizens have points of public access.

During my tenure as Governor, we have created and funded a private nonprofit entity, Connect Arkansas, which brings together relevant participants within our State. One of my highest chief objectives for Connect Arkansas is to collaborate and coordinate with other organizations, in both the public and private sectors, to ensure that all of our citizens realize the numerous benefits resulting from the widespread use of broadband services.

Connect Arkansas's body of work, as evidenced in its request for funding, represents a coordinated and unified application on behalf of the State, as per my direction. Please be assured that any funding it receives will be monitored by my office, and the activities proposed will be coordinated, so that we can yield the greatest possible benefit for the citizens of Arkansas. Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Beebe".

Mike Beebe

MB:jb

BLANCHE L. LINCOLN, ARKANSAS
CHAIRMAN

PATRICK J. LEAHY, VERMONT
TOM HARKIN, IOWA
KENT CONRAD, NORTH DAKOTA
MAX BAUCUS, MONTANA
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AMY KLOBUCHAR, MINNESOTA
MICHAEL BENNET, COLORADO
KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND, NEW YORK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6000

202-224-2035

SAXBY CHAMBLISS, GEORGIA
RANKING REPUBLICAN MEMBER

RICHARD G. LUGAR, INDIANA
THAD COCHRAN, MISSISSIPPI
MITCH McCONNELL, KENTUCKY
PAT ROBERTS, KANSAS
MIKE JOHANNIS, NEBRASKA
CHARLES E. GRASSLEY, IOWA
JOHN THUNE, SOUTH DAKOTA
JOHN CORNYN, TEXAS

March 12, 2010

The Honorable Gary Locke, Secretary
U.S. Department of Commerce (NTIA)
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Secretary Locke:

I am pleased to write in support of the funding application that Connect Arkansas has submitted to the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

With this funding, Connect Arkansas will implement the Sustainable Broadband Adoption project. This effort is designed to address youth and adult technology education, healthcare education, and entrepreneurship economic development. Specifically, Connect Arkansas will implement a public education program that focuses on students in grades 5 through 12, using the internet to teach them about entrepreneurship. The parents of these students will also engage in technology training through the program. Additionally, Connect Arkansas will partner with the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences to deliver an education awareness program that supports the adoption of telehealth and broadband technology in the delivery of health care in 57 impoverished counties in Arkansas.

According to the 2008 State New Economy Index produced by the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation, Arkansas ranks 48th overall in its ability to compete in the new economy. The indicators include workforce education, in which Arkansas ranks 48th, and an online population where Arkansas ranks 47th, avowing "the number of people online is probably the most basic indicator of a state's progress toward a digital economy." In an independent study conducted by Connect Arkansas in 2008, only 49 percent of the population subscribed to broadband service, while another 29 percent had never used the internet. Given the results of these two studies, it is critical that programs such as the one Connect Arkansas has proposed are implemented.

I appreciate your serious consideration of the application submitted by Connect Arkansas. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide additional information about Connect Arkansas's efforts.

Sincerely,


Blanche L. Lincoln

BLL: rc



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Dr. T. Kenneth James
Commissioner

State Board
of Education
Randy Lawson
Bentonville
Chair

March 9, 2010

Dr. Naccaman Williams
Springdale
Vice Chair

Sherry Burrow
Jonesboro

Jim Cooper
Melbourne

Brenda Gullett
Fayetteville

Sam Ledbetter
Little Rock

Alice Mahony
El Dorado

Dr. Ben Mays
Clinton

Diane Tatum
Pine Bluff

Mr. C. Sam Walls
President
Connect Arkansas
200 South Commerce, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Mr. Walls:

I am writing to express my support for the application of federal stimulus funds by Connect Arkansas. If funded, the grant will provide for mobile computer labs with satellite Internet connectivity that can be fully utilized by the state's education system. Students in Arkansas are in need of mobile classrooms to obtain instruction because of frequent transportation problems and Internet connectivity issues.

The stimulus money could be used to purchase portable computer labs with satellite access to the Internet. The use of these mobile Internet computer labs will allow the schools across Arkansas to offer classes to nontraditional students through the Internet and take advantage of additional education opportunities. Not only will this aid in growing the attendance to higher education courses, but also improve the workforce development efforts through out the state.

Utilizing resources like the mobile Internet computer lab is in the best interest for Arkansas as it will allow for greater capacity of reaching Arkansans where ever they live and support a wide range of education needs.

Sincerely,

James Boardman
Assistant Commissioner
Research and Technology

Four Capitol Mall
Little Rock, AR
72201-1019
(501) 682-4475
ArkansasEd.org



March 8, 2010

Mr. C Sam Walls, President
Connect Arkansas
200 South Commerce, Suite 400
Little Rock, 72201

Dear Mr. Walls:

Through this letter, I wish to pledge the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences' support for Connect Arkansas' Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) Sustainable Broadband Adoption grant submission. By compiling Arkansas' broadband ideas and innovations, Connect Arkansas has effectively developed a Sustainable Broadband Adoption program that directly responds to the state's needs in the spirit of cross-institutional collaboration.

As you well know, the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences exists as the state's only academic medical center, and through this position, we elect to pursue positive change and technological advances to support the healthcare, research, and educational opportunities afforded to all Arkansans. We have chosen to participate in this effort with Connect Arkansas to add a layer of specific health-related focus to the development of broadband in Arkansas.

UAMS offers a component to the state's collaborative BTOP proposal submitted through Connect Arkansas: UAMS will promote broadband health adoption through the Arkansas Center for Telehealth, an outreach, education, and awareness initiative aimed at healthcare providers, administrators, and the public. Through the Arkansas Center for Telehealth, Arkansans will receive access to broadband-enabled healthcare technology training, needs-based curricula, an educational website, awareness campaign, and 24/7 technical support.

Through this effort, we hope to support the growth of the state's broadband-enabled telehealth needs, providing immediate solutions that make broadband technology easier to access and adopt for all Arkansans. In an even larger scope, both of these efforts provide the training and educational resources needed to help fully adopt the ATOM Network, a related BTOP Comprehensive Community proposal submitted by UAMS that builds the broadband capacities of over 450 community anchor institutions in Arkansas.

Connect Arkansas has our support and commitment in its proposed Sustainable Broadband Adoption program. We hope this is the first step to a meaningful collaboration between UAMS and Connect Arkansas.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Curtis Lowery MD". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Curtis Lowery, MD
*Director, Center for Distance Health
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences*

THE ARKANSAS CAPITAL CORPORATION GROUP

“Empowering Entrepreneurs”

March 9, 2010

The Honorable Gary Lock, Secretary
U.S. Department of Commerce (NTIA)
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Honorable Secretary Lock:

Through this letter, Arkansas Capital Corporation would like to express support for the Sustainable Broadband Adoption proposal filed by Connect Arkansas through the National Telecommunications and Information Administration’s Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program (BTOP).

As a fifty-two year old company that operates on a statewide footprint, our senior level management team understands the importance of the education of our citizens and readily available access to broadband internet service. We are committed to contributing our knowledge, energy and effort into this initiative to ensure its further utilization and penetration in the state of Arkansas.

Utilizing programs like the “Expanding Broadband Use in Arkansas” is in the best interest for Arkansas as it will allow for greater capacity of reaching Arkansans to expand the use and subscribership of broadband technologies.

Sincerely,



Jay W. Wisener
Executive Vice President
Arkansas Capital Corporation



Corporate Office:
200 S. Commerce, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201
Phone: 501 • 374 • 9247
Toll Free: 800 • 216 • 7237
Fax: 501 • 374 • 9425

Northeastern Office:
457 Southwest Drive
Jonesboro, AR 72401
Phone: 870 • 932 • 8002
Toll Free: 888 • 726 • 9229
Fax: 870 • 935 • 9426

Northwestern Office:
2961 North Point Circle
Suite 102
Fayetteville, AR 72704
Phone: 479 • 444 • 8881
Toll Free: 800 • 705 • 9295
Fax: 479 • 444 • 8882

www.arcapital.com



March 9, 2010

The Honorable Gary Lock, Secretary
U.S. Department of Commerce (NTIA)
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20230



Dear Mr. Secretary:

Through this letter, MH Marketing/E.M.B.A.R. Entrepreneurship Training Academy would like to express support for the Sustainable Broadband Adoption proposal filed by Connect Arkansas through the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program (BTOP).

Through this program we will empower the youth of Arkansas to understand the importance of starting their own business, and show them that there are opportunities that go far beyond their current surroundings.

We will motivate a group of young people to look at how communications can transform their opportunities, we will provide these youth with training opportunities, and then show the youth of Arkansas how to develop their own businesses. Communications holds great opportunities for our country to motivate, educate, and transform the lives of America's rural communities.

Utilizing programs like the "Expanding Broadband Use in Arkansas" is in the best interest for Arkansas as it will allow for greater capacity of reaching Arkansans to expand the use and subscribership of broadband technologies.

Sincerely,

Matt Hampton, Vice President
MH Marketing

300 SPRING STREET SUITE 604 LITTLE ROCK ARKANSAS 72201 PH 501.374.3233

March 11, 2010

Mr. Sam Walls
Arkansas Capital Corporation
200 South Commerce, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

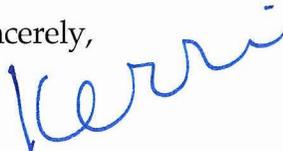
Dear Mr. Walls:

Through this letter, Arkansas Economic Acceleration Foundation (AEAF) would like to express support for the Sustainable Broadband Adoption proposal filed by Connect Arkansas through the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program (BTOP).

Arkansas Economic Acceleration Foundation's Youth Entrepreneurial Showcase (Y.E.S.) business plan competition will benefit tremendously by having an increased presence across the state. By having an increased presence, we can provide program training to teachers so that they may implement Y.E.S. in their classes. Our goal is provide all of Arkansas's 5th – 8th grade students the opportunity to experience entrepreneurship and the internet can help make this happen

Utilizing programs like the "Expanding Broadband Use in Arkansas " is in the best interest for Arkansas as it will allow for greater capacity of reaching Arkansans to expand the use and subscribership of broadband technologies.

Sincerely,



Kerri Daniels, Executive Director
Arkansas Economic Acceleration Foundation



*An affiliate of
Arkansas Capital
Corporation*

200 S. Commerce, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201
Phone: 501.374.9247
Fax: 501.374.9425
www.aeafoundation.com



March 8, 2010

Ms. Michelle Stockman
Connect-Arkansas
200 South Commerce, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Ms. Stockman,

The University of Arkansas at Monticello supports the Connect-Arkansas Sustainable Broadband Adoption Program that proposes to build stronger communities by facilitating statewide broadband access. The university is committed to building a stronger community and facilitating broadband education in the state of Arkansas. As a sign of our commitment, we will pledge \$26,350 to support Connect-Arkansas through reporting, use of our facilities and administrative services.

UAM is excited about the opportunity that will be provided by the Connect-Arkansas Sustainable Broadband Adoption Program. We look forward to working with Connect-Arkansas.

Sincerely,



Jack Lassiter
Chancellor

lr



**Arkansas Association of
Two-Year Colleges**

DR. EDWARD L. FRANKLIN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

March 8, 2010

Mr. C. Sam Walls
Chief Executive Officer
Connect-Arkansas
200 South Commerce, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Mr. Walls:

I am writing to express our support of the American Recovery & Reinvestment Program proposal for the State of Arkansas, in which Connect-Arkansas will take the lead role.

The Arkansas Association of Two-Year Colleges (AATYC) is a private, nonprofit higher education membership organization serving the educational needs of two-year college students and the business/industry needs of the State. The Association facilitates the sharing of ideas, resources, and opportunities among its members, and advocates on behalf of members' students.

Arkansas' twenty-two (22) two-year colleges are located throughout the State, most serving rural communities. Therefore, an important part of our mission is to improve the capabilities of rural Arkansans to participate in educational opportunities, such as distance education, and to help rural entrepreneurs expand their businesses through the opportunities available via internet. Broadband access, and the ability of our citizens to utilize it, is imperative if these goals are to be met.

AATYC member colleges, their students, and their communities will greatly benefit from broadband access, and the work of Connect-Arkansas over the past two years has laid a strong foundation on which to launch this statewide initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edward L. Franklin".

Edward L. Franklin, Ed.D.
Executive Director

cc: Kim Tran
Leslie Lane

MAIN OFFICE: 1400 W. MARKHAM, SUITE 402 • LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201 • TEL. 501-371-0404 •
FAX 501-371-0405

FT. SMITH: 235 N. GREENWOOD AVENUE • FT. SMITH, ARKANSAS 72901 • TEL. 479-424-0071 • FAX 479-
424-0070



Office of the Director

P.O. Box 1437, Slot S-201 · Little Rock, AR 72203-1437
501-682-8650 · Fax: 501-682-6836 · TDD: 501-682-8933



March 11, 2010

Broadband Technology Opportunities Program
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
HCHB, Room 4812
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Mr. Villano,

On behalf of the Arkansas Department of Human Services (ADHS), comprised of ten divisions and five offices, I am pleased to submit this letter pledging our support for the *Sustainable Broadband Adoption and Public Computing Access* proposals filed by Connect Arkansas through the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program (BTOP).

Each year, ADHS touches the lives of over 1,000,000 Arkansans in numerous ways from foster care, child care, behavioral health, and long term care depending upon countless numbers of providers to deliver services and supports to those in need. As part of the ten divisions mentioned above, ADHS has the primary responsibility for the State's Medicaid agency as well as the mental health and substance abuse authority. As one of the largest agencies in Arkansas, ADHS has more than 7,500 employees working in 83 county offices throughout the state.

Through ADHS's systems transformation efforts, we are committed to identifying and implementing new and innovative ways to provide services and supports to our clients in their local communities. For example, we are in the process of 1) transforming and modernizing the service delivery system for the core public assistance programs (health, nutrition and economic services) through a streamlined online information and application system; 2) collaborating with providers to enhance their information technology systems to improve the accuracy and timeliness of claims processing and reimbursement; and, 3) partnering with various stakeholders to utilize telemedicine to expand services throughout the state. Similarly, the development and implementation of an enhanced broadband system will provide increased distance education opportunities for our employees and providers.

In closing, ADHS is pleased to support Connect Arkansas in this important endeavor to not only improve the availability and accessibility of health care in Arkansas, but also to help drive economic development---particularly in rural communities---through the provision of broadband services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Selig".

John Selig
Director



Arkansas State Library

One Capitol Mall • Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-1081

Office of the State Librarian

(501) 682-1526

March 10, 2010

Mr. C. Sam Walls, President
Connect-Arkansas
200 South Commerce, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Mr. Walls:

I am writing to express our support of the American Recovery & Reinvestment Program proposal for the State of Arkansas in which Connect-Arkansas will take the lead role. The Arkansas State Library looks forward to participating in the BTOP Sustainable Broadband Adoption and the complimentary Public Computer Center application also being submitted.

The Arkansas State Library's primary mission is to serve as the information resource center for all state agencies, legislators and legislative staffs; to provide guidance and support for the development of local public libraries and library services; and to provide the resources, services and leadership necessary to meet the needs of the citizens of Arkansas. Collaborating with Connect-Arkansas in this effort will allow us to expand upon the role of libraries as providers of services/programs to the citizens of Arkansas and as community anchor institutions.

The development and expansion of broadband service to consumers through Arkansas libraries can be achieved in several ways. First, an assessment of public library connectivity is needed. This would require the hiring of 'circuit riders' who could travel the state offering assistance with assessing current usage of IT, training on the resources and technology that could be available, and planning for expanded broadband connectivity. Second, an equipment truck (or Broadband Mobile Unit) would be extremely useful in expanding educational initiatives of schools, healthcare facilities, governmental entities, etc. Citizens could receive hands-on computer training and access in the BMU in rural communities across the state. Third, offering every Arkansan access to Vault's Online Career Library will provide access to a tool utilizing broadband technology and internet resources to empower job seekers, support high school students with career development, expand workforce development training, etc.

In times of economic stress like we're currently experiencing, libraries are in even greater demand. They provide especially important services to those trying to find a job, or residents just looking for a place to read a book, listen to a CD, or select a video, without racking up a bill. Libraries are providing a broader range of services, from access to research databases, to loaning videos, to providing internet access. People of all ages, incomes, and backgrounds use the library. With over 200 public library outlets across Arkansas, there is at least one public library in each of the seventy-five counties.

Libraries are at the heart of our communities. As an anchor institution, they are the first point of service for many of our citizens. They are an obvious partner in the efforts to achieve the objectives of the Recovery Act.

I am happy to support the Connect-Arkansas application. If I can provide any further assistance, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carolyn Ashcraft".

Carolyn Ashcraft
State Librarian
Arkansas State Library

cc: Kim Tran
Leslie Lane
Files



March 8, 2010

COUNCIL MEMBERS

John W. Ahlén
Arkansas Science &
Technology Authority

Ed Allis
A1&1

Greg Ashcraft
South Arkansas
Telephone Company

Elizabeth Bowles
Wireless Internet
Service Providers
Association

Dave Burdick
Pine Bluff Jefferson
County Library
System

Katie McLane Burns
Arkansas
Telecommunications
Association

Maryce Cunningham
Suddenlink
Communications

Jim Dailey
Flake & Kelley
Commercial

Larry Frazier
Rural Telecom
Solutions

Joe Molinaro
Arkansas Cable
Telecommunications
Association

Len Pitcock
Cox Communications

Wendy Wheeler
Verizon Wireless

James Winingham
Arkansas Insurance
Department

Mr. C. Sam Walls
Chief Executive Officer
Connect-Arkansas
200 South Commerce, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Mr. Walls,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Arkansas Broadband Council, I am writing to express support for Connect Arkansas's lead role in the State of Arkansas's applications for American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding. Connect Arkansas is seeking funding under the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program (BTOP) through the State Broadband Data Program, the Sustainable Broadband Adoption Program, and the Public Computing Center Program.

In 2007, Governor Mike Beebe signed into law Act 604 to facilitate the availability of broadband service to every home and business in Arkansas. Since then, Connect Arkansas has laid the groundwork from which a robust statewide initiative can be launched. The availability of funds through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act provides our state with the opportunity to leverage this existing collaborative and coordinated effort in the deployment of a more robust program focused on broadband access and education.

A key factor in the success of the Connect Arkansas initiative is the acknowledgement that, in order for our state to be competitive, we must not only have a robust broadband infrastructure, but just as importantly, people who can use advanced telecommunications and information technology to compete globally.

As Arkansas continues to be ranked 48th in the New Economy Index, deployment of this coordinated, statewide initiative and the leveraging of Connect Arkansas's efforts of the past two years will provide our state with an opportunity to significantly improve. Broadband is not the sole solution, but by ensuring that broadband technologies are accessible in every part of our state, and especially in rural areas, will enable our people to compete in the 21st Century global economy and move our communities forward.

Sincerely,

Katie McLane Burns
Chairman
Arkansas Broadband Council

cc: Kim Tran
Leslie Lane



**LITTLE ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT
810 WEST MARKHAM
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201**

Sandy Becker, Internal Auditor
Office: (501) 447-1115
Fax: (501) 447-1161
E-mail: sandy.becker@lrsd.org

February 26, 2010

Connect-Arkansas
Michelle Stockman
200 South Commerce, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Michelle:

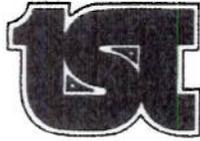
The Little Rock School District Computers for Kids Program is pleased with the opportunity to participate with Connect Arkansas in building a strong computer infrastructure for all Arkansans. We believe that access to technology and information helps with the education of both students, parents, and all adults.

We look forward to working with you and Connect Arkansas on a much more detailed basis to develop specific plans to implement this opportunity to offer increased access to technology to all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandy Becker".

Sandy Becker
Internal Auditor - Little Rock School District
Coordinator - Little Rock School District - Computers for Kids Program



JIM DANIELS, PRESIDENT AND CEO

March 8, 2010

C. Sam Walls, President
Connect Arkansas
200 South Commerce, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Mr. Walls:

I am writing to express our support of the American Recovery & Reinvestment Program proposal for the state of Arkansas that Connect Arkansas for which Connect Arkansas is taking the lead role. Connect Arkansas is seeking funding through the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program (BTOP) through the State Broadband Data Program, the Sustainable Broadband Adoption Program, and the Public Computing Center Program.

In 2007, Governor Beebe signed into law Act 604 to ensure the creation of a competitive broadband infrastructure for Arkansas. Since then, Connect Arkansas has laid the groundwork from which a robust statewide e-Community planning initiative can be launched. The availability of funds through the American Recovery & Reinvestment Program provide our state with the opportunity to leverage this existing collaborative and coordinated effort, in deployment of a more robust program focused on broadband access and education.

As a County that has worked through this e-Community planning initiative, the data that was provided through this program allowed us to better hone our local efforts and also to ensure that our efforts were coordinated on a statewide level, ultimately improving the potential for impact.

Arkansas continues to be 48th in the New Economy Index rankings relative to the nation, and deployment of this coordinated, statewide initiative, and leverage of the efforts over the past two years by Connect Arkansas will provide our state with an opportunity to significantly improve. Broadband is not the sole solution, but by ensuring that broadband technologies are integrated into every aspect of our state, and especially on a local level, it is this education that will enable our people to move the state forward.

Sincerely,

Jim Daniels
President & CEO

First National Bank of McGehee

P.O. BOX 728 MCGEHEE, ARKANSAS 71654-0728 • (870) 222-3880 • FAX (870) 222-4853 • INFO LINE (870) 222-2800 • EMAIL jim@fnbmcgehee.com

MEMBER FDIC

MARK PRYOR
ARKANSAS

COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS

COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION

HOME LAND SECURITY AND
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

SMALL BUSINESS AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

255 DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-2353

500 PRESIDENT CLINTON AVENUE
SUITE 401
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201
(501) 324-6336
TOLL FREE: (877) 259-9602
<http://pryor.senate.gov>

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 9, 2010

Mr. C. Sam Walls
Chief Executive Officer
200 Commerce Street, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201-1766

Dear Mr. Walls:

I am pleased to write in support of the American Recovery & Reinvestment Program proposal for the State of Arkansas for which Connect Arkansas is taking the lead role. Connect Arkansas is seeking funding through the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program (BTOP) through the State Broadband Data Program, the Sustainable Broadband Adoption Program, and the Public Computing Center Program.

In 2007, Governor Beebe signed into law Act 604 to ensure the creation of a competitive broadband infrastructure for Arkansas. Since then, Connect Arkansas has laid the groundwork from which a robust statewide initiative can be launched. The availability of funds through the American Recovery & Reinvestment Program provides our state with the opportunity to leverage this existing collaborative and coordinated effort, in deployment of a more robust program focused on broadband access and education.

A key factor to success of the Connect Arkansas initiative is the acknowledgement that, in order for our state to be competitive, we must not only have a robust infrastructure, but just as importantly, people who can leverage and use broadband to their benefit.

As Arkansas continues to be 48th in the New Economy Index rankings relative to the nation, deployment of this coordinated, statewide initiative, and leverage of the efforts over the past two years by Connect Arkansas will provide our state with an opportunity to significantly improve. Broadband is not the sole solution, but by ensuring that broadband technologies are integrated into every aspect of our state, and especially on a local level, it is this education that will enable our people to move the state forward.

Sincerely,



Mark Pryor

MLP/sj

BLANCHE LAMBERT LINCOLN
ARKANSAS

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
FINANCE
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

912 WEST FOURTH STREET
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201
(501) 375-2893
(800) 352-9364 (IN ARKANSAS ONLY)

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

www.senate.gov/~lincoln

March 9, 2010

Mr. C. Sam Walls, Chief Executive Officer
Connect-Arkansas
200 South Commerce, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Mr. Walls,

It is my pleasure to express my support of Connect Arkansas's proposal on behalf of the State of Arkansas to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program (BTOP) through the State Broadband Data Program, the Sustainable Broadband Adoption Program, and the Public Computing Center Program, as part of the American Recovery & Reinvestment Program.

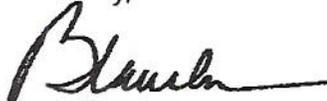
In 2007, Governor Beebe signed into law Act 604 to ensure the creation of a competitive broadband infrastructure for Arkansas. Since then, Connect Arkansas has laid the groundwork from which a critical statewide initiative can be launched. The availability of funds through the American Recovery & Reinvestment Program provide our state with the opportunity to leverage this existing collaborative, in deployment of a more robust program focused on broadband access and education.

A key factor to success of the Connect Arkansas initiative is the acknowledgement that, in order for our state to be competitive, we must not only have a solid infrastructure, but just as importantly, people that can leverage and use broadband to their benefit.

As Arkansas continues to be 48th in the New Economy Index rankings relative to the nation, deployment of this coordinated, statewide initiative, and leverage of the efforts over the past two years by Connect Arkansas will provide our state with an opportunity to significantly improve.

Broadband is not the sole solution, but by ensuring that broadband technologies are integrated into every aspect of our state, and especially on a local level, it is this education that will enable our people to move the state forward.

Sincerely,



Blanche L. Lincoln

BLI: cgp
cc: Kim Tran
Leslie Lane

MARION BERRY
1ST DISTRICT, ARKANSAS

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS

BUDGET

2305 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
TEL: (202) 225-4076
FAX: (202) 225-5602

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0401

March 8, 2010

108 EAST HUNTINGTON AVENUE
JONESBORO, AR 72401
TEL: (800) 866-2701
FAX: (870) 972-4605

112 SOUTH FIRST STREET
CABOT, AR 72023
TEL: (501) 843-3043
FAX: (501) 843-4955

1 EAST 7TH STREET
SUITE 200
MOUNTAIN HOME, AR 72653
TEL: (870) 425-3510
FAX: (870) 425-3511

Mr. C. Sam Walls
Chief Executive Officer
Connect-Arkansas
200 South Commerce, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Mr. Walls:

It is my pleasure to provide a letter of support for Connect Arkansas as they seek funding through the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program (BTOP), via the State Broadband Data Program, the Sustainable Broadband Adoption Program and the Public Computing Center Program.

As a member of Congress, one of my top priorities is economic and rural development. I applaud Governor Beebe for signing into law Act 604 to ensure the creation of a competitive broadband infrastructure for Arkansas. I am aware that since then, Connect Arkansas has laid the groundwork from which a robust statewide initiative can be launched. The availability of funds through the American Recovery & Reinvestment Program provide our state with the opportunity to leverage this existing collaborative and coordinated effort, in deployment of a more robust program focused on broadband access and education. I believe a key factor to success of the Connect Arkansas initiative is the acknowledgement that, in order for our state to be competitive, we must not only have a robust infrastructure, but people that can leverage and use broadband to their benefit.

As Arkansas continues to be 48th in the New Economy Index rankings relative to the nation, deployment of this coordinated, statewide initiative, and leverage of the efforts over the past two years by Connect Arkansas will provide our state with an opportunity to significantly improve. Broadband is not the sole solution, but by ensuring that broadband technologies are integrated into every aspect of our state on a local level, this education will enable our people to move the state forward.

Sincerely,



MARION BERRY

Member of Congress

MB/ka
CC: Kim Tran
Leslie Lane

March 12, 2010

Mr. Sam Walls
President
Connect Arkansas
Suite 400
200 South Commerce Street
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Mr. Walls:

I am writing to express my support for the application of federal stimulus funds by Connect Arkansas to provide for mobile computer labs with internet connectivity via satellite. The Department of Information Systems is the lead agency for the state emergency support function for communication during times of disaster. Our role is to lead the usage of resources in the state to restore communications for first responders and local governments in order to maintain public safety and facilitate restoration of vital services.

It is my understanding the stimulus money would be used to purchase three portable computer labs with satellite access to the Internet. During times of disaster when local access to the Internet is impacted, these mobile computer labs would be available to the state for emergency response purposes. These mobile labs would be beneficial to the Department of Education to promote the Internet to our public schools and would also be used in the event of an emergency resulting in a communication failure within the state.

Using resources wisely for multiple purposes is in Arkansas's best interest. I believe this investment would benefit our state's ability to recover from disasters.

Regards,



Claire Bailey
Director
Department of Information Systems



MIKE ROSS

FOURTH DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS

WASHINGTON

2438 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
1-800-223-2220
(202) 225-3772
(202) 225-1314 FAX

<http://ross.house.gov>
mike.ross@mail.house.gov



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE**
SUBCOMMITTEES:
HEALTH
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

**NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY
ORGANIZATION (NATO)
PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY**

March 10, 2010

Mr. C. Sam Walls
Chief Executive Officer
Connect-Arkansas
200 South Commerce, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Mr. Walls,

I am writing to express support for the American Recovery & Reinvestment Program proposal for the state of Arkansas for which Connect-Arkansas is taking the lead role. Connect-Arkansas is seeking funding through the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program (BTOP), the State Broadband Data Program, the Sustainable Broadband Adoption Program, and the Public Computing Center Program.

In 2007, Governor Beebe signed into law Act 604 to ensure the creation of a competitive broadband infrastructure for Arkansas. Since then, Connect-Arkansas has laid the groundwork from which a robust statewide initiative can be launched. The availability of funds through the American Recovery & Reinvestment Program provide our state with the opportunity to leverage this existing collaborative and coordinated effort, in the deployment of a more robust program focused on broadband access and education.

As Arkansas continues to be 48th in the New Economy Index rankings relative to the nation, deployment of this coordinated, statewide initiative, and leverage of the efforts over the past two years by Connect-Arkansas will provide our state with an opportunity to significantly improve. Broadband is not the sole solution, but by ensuring that broadband technologies are integrated into every aspect of our state, and especially on a local level, this education will enable state to move forward.

HOT SPRINGS

300 EXCHANGE STREET
SUITE A
HOT SPRINGS NATIONAL PARK, AR 71901
(501) 520-5892
(501) 520-5873 FAX

PINE BLUFF

GEORGE HOWARD JR. FEDERAL BUILDING
100 EAST 8TH AVENUE
ROOM 2521
PINE BLUFF, AR 71601
(870) 538-3376
(870) 538-4058 FAX

EL DORADO

UNION COUNTY COURTHOUSE
SUITE 406
101 NORTH WASHINGTON
EL DORADO, AR 71730
(870) 881-0681
(870) 881-0683 FAX

PRESCOTT

221 WEST MAIN STREET
PRESCOTT, AR 71857
(870) 887-6787
(870) 887-6799 FAX

MIKE ROSS
FOURTH DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS



**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE**
SUBCOMMITTEES:
HEALTH
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

**NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY
ORGANIZATION (NATO)
PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY**

WASHINGTON
2438 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
1-800-223-2220
(202) 225-3772
(202) 225-1314 FAX

<http://ross.house.gov>
mike.ross@mail.house.gov

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

While I know funding is limited, I am hopeful that you will give Connect Arkansas your full consideration when reviewing its application. Please do not hesitate to contact Jeffery Weaver, my District Director, at (501) 520-5892 with any questions that you have regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Mike Ross

MR:lag

cc: Kim Tran
Leslie Lane

HOT SPRINGS
300 EXCHANGE STREET
SUITE A
HOT SPRINGS NATIONAL PARK, AR 71801
(501) 520-5892
(501) 520-5873 FAX

PINE BLUFF
GEORGE HOWARD, JR. FEDERAL BUILDING
100 EAST 8TH AVENUE
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PINE BLUFF, AR 71601
(870) 536-3376
(870) 536-4058 FAX

EL DORADO
UNION COUNTY COURTHOUSE
SUITE 406
101 NORTH WASHINGTON
EL DORADO, AR 71730
(870) 881-0681
(870) 881-0683 FAX

PRESCOTT
221 WEST MAIN STREET
PRESCOTT, AR 71857
(870) 887-6787
(870) 887-6799 FAX

**BTOP Public Computer Center and Sustainable Broadband Adoption
Detailed Budget Template**

Easy Grants ID: **6351**
 Applicant: Connect Arkansas
 Project Title: Expanding Broadband Use in Arkansas through Education

| SF-424A Object Class Category | General | | | Detail | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|----------|-------------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| | Position | Federal Support | Matching Support | Total | # of Positions | Salary | % Time Spent on Project | Quarters Employed | Total |
| a. Personnel - List position, number of staff, annual salaries, % time spent on project | Connect Management | \$137,456 | \$137,457 | \$274,913 | 6 | \$89,841 | 17% | 12 | \$274,913 |
| | Program Director | \$135,000 | \$135,000 | \$270,000 | 1 | \$90,000 | 100% | 12 | \$270,000 |
| | Program Training Specialist | \$97,500 | \$97,500 | \$195,000 | 1 | \$65,000 | 100% | 12 | \$195,000 |
| | Compliance Officer | \$60,000 | \$60,000 | \$120,000 | 1 | \$80,000 | 50% | 12 | \$120,000 |
| | Administrative Support | \$26,250 | \$26,250 | \$52,500 | 1 | \$35,000 | 50% | 12 | \$52,500 |
| Subtotal | | \$456,206 | \$456,207 | \$912,413 | | | | | |

| b. Fringe Benefits - Include salaries and fringe rate. | Position | Federal Support | Matching Support | Total | # of Positions | Salary | % Time Spent on Project | Quarters Employed | Fringe Rate | Total |
|--|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|----------|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------|----------|
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Connect Management | \$35,738 | \$35,739 | \$71,477 | 6 | \$89,841 | 17% | 12 | 26% | \$71,477 |
| | Program Director | \$35,100 | \$35,100 | \$70,200 | 1 | \$90,000 | 100% | 12 | 26% | \$70,200 |
| | Program Training Specialist | \$25,350 | \$25,350 | \$50,700 | 1 | \$65,000 | 100% | 12 | 26% | \$50,700 |
| | Compliance Officer | \$15,600 | \$15,600 | \$31,200 | 1 | \$80,000 | 50% | 12 | 26% | \$31,200 |
| | Administrative Support | \$6,825 | \$6,825 | \$13,650 | 1 | \$35,000 | 50% | 12 | 26% | \$13,650 |
| Subtotal | | \$118,613 | \$118,614 | \$237,227 | | | | | | |

| c. Travel - For significant costs, include details such as number and purpose of trips, destinations. | Purpose of Trip | Federal Support | Matching Support | Total | # of Trips | Cost per Trip | Total |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------|---------------|----------|
| | | | | | | | |
| 192 trips/workshops planned. Average distance is 300 miles round trip in the car @ .50 a mile. 92 classrooms for 3 years = 270 visits. Average distance 300 miles round trip in the car @ .50 a mile = \$40,500 | Technology Training Workshops | \$28,800 | \$0 | \$28,800 | 192 | \$150.00 | \$28,800 |
| | Entrepreneurship Training Program | \$40,500 | \$0 | \$40,500 | 270 | \$150.00 | \$40,500 |
| Subtotal | | \$69,300 | \$0 | \$69,300 | | | |

| d. Equipment Costs - List equipment with # of units and unit costs. Distinguish between equipment intended for applicant use versus equipment for the end user. | Equipment Description | Federal Support | Matching Support | Total | #Units | Unit Cost | Total |
|---|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------|-----------|----------|
| | | | | | | | |
| Applicant Equipment | | | | | | | |
| | Dell Latitude Laptop computers | \$2,400 | \$0 | \$2,400 | 2 | \$1,200 | \$2,400 |
| | HP Color Laserjet Printer | \$600 | \$0 | \$600 | 1 | \$600 | \$600 |
| | U.S. Sourcelink Software | \$75,000 | \$0 | \$75,000 | 1 | \$75,000 | \$75,000 |
| | Sourcelink Subscription/Support services | \$26,000 | \$0 | \$26,000 | 2 | \$13,000 | \$26,000 |
| User Equipment | | | | | | | |
| | | | | \$0 | | | \$0 |
| Subtotal | | \$104,000 | \$0 | \$104,000 | | | |

| e. Supplies - List costs associated with materials/printing, curriculum, translations, and other supplies | Description | Federal Support | Matching Support | Total | #Units (If Applicable) | Unit Cost (If Applicable) | Total |
|---|-------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------|------------------------|---------------------------|---------|
| | | | | | | | |
| | Training supplies (office supplies) | \$3,600 | \$0 | \$3,600 | 36 | \$100 | \$3,600 |
| | | | | \$0 | | | \$0 |
| Subtotal | | \$3,600 | \$0 | \$3,600 | | | |

| f. Contractual - List contractors with purpose of contract, hourly rate or total fixed rate. | Contractor | Federal Support | Matching Support | Total | # Hours (If Applicable) | Hourly Rate (If Applicable) | Total Contract |
|---|---|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| | LRS D Computers for Kids - 1710 refurbished computers @ \$99.00 per unit | \$149,290 | \$20,000 | \$169,290 | | | \$169,290 |
| | University of Arkansas at Monticello (304 hours of instructions @150 per hourx3) | \$112,856 | \$23,944 | \$136,800 | | | \$136,800 |
| | Arkansas Economic Acceleration Foundation -- Executive Director \$85,000 @ 25% of their time = \$21,250; Vice-President \$85,000 @ 60% of her time = 51,000, and intern @ \$27,750 for 1st year of project. | \$50,000 | \$50,000 | \$100,000 | | | \$100,000 |
| University of Arkansas Medical Sciences: | | | | | | | |
| | Principle Investigator | \$5,040 | \$0 | \$5,040 | 42 | \$120 | \$5,040 |
| | Clinical & Educational Director | \$34,944 | \$0 | \$34,944 | 832 | \$42 | \$34,944 |
| | Program Manager | \$126,256 | \$0 | \$126,256 | 4,160 | \$30 | \$126,256 |
| | Outreach Coordinator | \$39,936 | \$0 | \$39,936 | 832 | \$48 | \$39,936 |
| | Education Curriculum Director | \$94,692 | \$0 | \$94,692 | 3,120 | \$30 | \$94,692 |
| | Video Producer | \$31,564 | \$0 | \$31,564 | 1,040 | \$30 | \$31,564 |
| | Outreach Worker | \$85,207 | \$0 | \$85,207 | 3,120 | \$27 | \$85,207 |
| | Suppline Line Technologist (2 positions) | \$166,632 | \$0 | \$166,632 | 4,992 | \$33 | \$166,632 |
| | Broadband Health Instructor | \$25,251 | \$0 | \$25,251 | 1,040 | \$24 | \$25,251 |
| | Web Developer | \$28,402 | \$0 | \$28,402 | 1,040 | \$27 | \$28,402 |
| | Travel (20 trips, for 5 employees per diem/mileage \$150: 20 x 5 x150= \$15,000. Mileage 10,714 for 5 employees @0.42 cents/mile = \$22,500.) | \$37,500 | \$0 | \$37,500 | | | \$37,500 |
| | Supplies (General Office; DVD's and CD's for data storage) | \$5,660 | \$0 | \$5,660 | | | \$5,660 |
| | Public Awareness Campaign -- Radio: \$260 production + 50 spots/\$400ads = \$20,260; TV: \$3500 production costs + 7 spots/\$7320 = \$54,740; printing \$5000; and 8 computers @ \$1500 for ACT staff = \$12,000) | \$92,000 | \$0 | \$92,000 | | | \$92,000 |
| | ACT Training Center Fee (15 classes x \$3333 per class) | \$49,995 | \$0 | \$49,995 | 15 | \$3,333 | \$49,995 |
| | Training Equipment: Audio Visual | \$0 | \$95,000 | \$95,000 | | | \$95,000 |
| | Custom Recording and Streaming Package | \$0 | \$40,000 | \$40,000 | | | \$40,000 |
| | Custom Telemedicine Consultation Room | \$0 | \$125,000 | \$125,000 | | | \$125,000 |
| | Video Conference System | \$0 | \$40,000 | \$40,000 | | | \$40,000 |
| | Subtotal | \$1,135,225 | \$393,944 | \$1,529,169 | | | |

| g. Construction - If applicable, list construction costs | Description | Federal Support | Matching Support | Total |
|---|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| | | | | \$0 |
| | | | | \$0 |
| | Subtotal | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |

| h. Other - List costs associated with grant subrecipients as well as other costs not listed above such as rent, technology (website hosting, internet connection), advertising (TV, radio, online), etc. | Description | Federal Support | Matching Support | Total | #Units (If Applicable) | Unit Cost (If Applicable) | Total |
|--|---|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| | Furniture | \$0 | \$10,000 | \$10,000 | 2 | \$5,000 | \$10,000 |
| | Postage & Shipping | \$7,500 | \$0 | \$7,500 | | | \$7,500 |
| | Meeting Supplies | \$3,600 | \$0 | \$3,600 | 36 | \$100 | \$3,600 |
| | Professional Development | \$9,000 | \$0 | \$9,000 | 3 | \$3,000 | \$9,000 |
| | Phones | \$54,000 | \$0 | \$54,000 | 36 | \$1,500 | \$54,000 |
| | T1 Internet connection subscription | \$23,328 | \$0 | \$23,328 | 36 | \$648 | \$23,328 |
| | Rent - Office Space (4th floor, 2,269.93 square feet @ 17.20 p/square feet cost p/year = 39,043. 3rd. Floor 754.60 square feet @20.95 p/square feet, cost per year: \$15,808. Total for both floors: \$54852.00 per year) | \$164,556 | \$0 | \$164,556 | 3 | \$54,852 | \$164,556 |
| | Accounting | \$72,000 | \$0 | \$72,000 | | | \$72,000 |
| | Annual Reports | \$15,000 | \$0 | \$15,000 | | | \$15,000 |
| | Legal Services | \$72,000 | \$0 | \$72,000 | 36 | \$2,000 | \$72,000 |
| Marketing & Advertising Awareness Campaign: | | | \$0 | | | | |
| | Print ads includes print ads in newspapers, business publications, magazines. | \$70,000 | \$0 | \$70,000 | | | \$70,000 |
| | Press Kits | \$1,200 | \$0 | \$1,200 | | | \$1,200 |
| | Media Ads -- Radio: \$260 production + 50 spots/\$400ads = \$20,260; TV: \$3500 production costs + 7 spots/\$7320 = \$54,740 | \$75,000 | \$0 | \$75,000 | | | \$75,000 |
| | Speakers Bureau (travel 12x 100miles @ .50 per mile + \$50/day expenses per year. | \$3,600 | \$0 | \$3,600 | | | \$3,600 |
| | Festival Booths (Exhibit \$3000 + travel 20trips 100miles @ .50 per mile + \$50/day) | \$9,000 | \$0 | \$9,000 | | | \$9,000 |
| | E-Community meetings and events | \$6,000 | \$0 | \$6,000 | | | \$6,000 |
| | Sponsorship of School Programs | \$5,000 | \$0 | \$5,000 | | | \$5,000 |
| | Broadband Summit | \$57,380 | \$0 | \$57,380 | | | \$57,380 |
| | Information Packets (500 @\$5.00 ea.) | \$2,500 | \$0 | \$2,500 | | | \$2,500 |
| | Community Events Sponsorship (25 events @ \$1000 (rural communities' sponsorships to support broadband awareness and adoption events). | \$25,000 | \$0 | \$25,000 | | | \$25,000 |
| | Mailings (Printing 500 postcards @ \$3 each and mailing at \$.44) | \$1,720 | \$0 | \$1,720 | | | \$1,720 |
| | Telling the Internet Story (1 staff member making 20 trips/year; average 100 miles/trip @ .50 day plus \$50/day expenses) | \$6,000 | \$0 | \$6,000 | | | \$6,000 |
| Entrepreneurial Curriculum : | | | | | | | |
| | Instructors - Year One will employ 3 Full Time Instructors @32,000. Year Two will employ 7 Full time Instructors @32,000 each per year each, and the third year will employ 13instructors for \$32,000 a year.) | \$736,000 | \$0 | \$736,000 | | | \$736,000 |
| | Program supplies and materials | \$10,000 | \$0 | \$10,000 | | | \$10,000 |
| | On-line business start-up costs (web services, hosting, domain name)for 1530 students @\$100 per student | \$153,000 | \$0 | \$153,000 | | | \$153,000 |
| Subtotal | | \$1,582,384 | \$10,000 | \$1,592,384 | | | |

| | | | | |
|---|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| i. Total Direct Charges (sum of a-h) | | \$3,469,328 | \$978,765 | \$4,448,093 |
| j. Indirect Charges | | \$233,410 | \$58,482 | \$291,892 |
| Total Eligible Project Costs | | \$3,702,738 | \$1,037,247 | \$4,739,985 |
| Match Percentage | | 21.9% | | |

Explanation of Indirect Charges

Connect Arkansas contracts with its' parent company, Arkansas Capital Corporation, for administrative and book keeping services. These indirect charges cover all the services provided by ACC, which equals a total of 10% in indirect charges.

Additional Budget Notes

CONNECT ARKANSAS, INC.
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2008
WITH
REPORT OF INDEPENDENT CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

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| Report of independent certified public accountants | 1 |
| Financial statements: | |
| Statement of financial position | 2 |
| Statement of activities and changes in net assets | 3 |
| Statement of cash flows | 4 |
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7 Pages

Withheld in their entirety
pursuant to FOIA Exemption 4
(5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(4))

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.
Act 604 of the Regular Session

1 State of Arkansas
2 86th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2007

A Bill

SENATE BILL 924

4
5 By: Senator Capps
6
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

8
9 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE CREATION AND OPERATION
10 OF THE CONNECT ARKANSAS NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION TO
11 PROMOTE BROADBAND EDUCATION AND DEPLOYMENT IN
12 ARKANSAS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
13

Subtitle

14
15 TO PROVIDE FOR THE CREATION AND
16 OPERATION OF THE CONNECT ARKANSAS
17 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION TO PROMOTE
18 BROADBAND EDUCATION AND DEPLOYMENT IN
19 ARKANSAS.
20
21

22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
23

24 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 4 is amended to add an additional
25 chapter to read as follows:

26 Chapter 112 – Connect Arkansas Broadband Program

27 4-112-101. Short title.

28 This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Connect Arkansas
29 Broadband Act".
30

31 4-112-102. Definitions.

32 As used in this chapter:

33 (1) "Broadband" means any service used to provide Internet
34 access at a minimum of three hundred eighty-four kilobites per second (384
35 kbps) in either direction;



1 (2) "Broadband backbone" means the collection of high capacity
2 broadband infrastructure used to deliver broadband service to communities,
3 counties, or regions of the State of Arkansas;

4 (3) "Last mile broadband" means the broadband media used to
5 deliver broadband to a user location such as a home or an office building;
6 and

7 (4) "Participants" means the employees of Connect Arkansas and
8 all entities participating in Connect Arkansas programs to facilitate the
9 preparation of the people and businesses of Arkansas for the use of broadband
10 and to facilitate the deployment of broadband service to individual and
11 organizational consumers in Arkansas.

12

13 4-112-103. Connect Arkansas – Nonprofit organization.

14 (a) The Arkansas Capitol Corporation may form a nonprofit corporation
15 named "Connect Arkansas" to:

16 (1) Prepare the people and businesses of Arkansas to secure the
17 economic, educational, health, social, and other benefits available via
18 broadband use; and

19 (2) Facilitate the availability of broadband service to every
20 home and business in Arkansas.

21 (b) The Arkansas Science and Technology Authority may make grants from
22 funds available for the purpose of establishing Connect Arkansas.

23 (c) Connect Arkansas will promote broadband-based development in
24 Arkansas, with the goals of facilitating:

25 (1) Broadband education so that the citizens of every home and
26 business in Arkansas can take full advantage of broadband services; and

27 (2) The availability of broadband service to broadband educated
28 citizens in every home and business in Arkansas by the end of the year 2012.

29 (d) Recognizing that such services as geographical information system
30 data delivery and high definition television programs require increasingly
31 huge demands in bandwidth, Connect Arkansas will promote broadband backbone
32 networks that will serve all of Arkansas with the bandwidth to support
33 Arkansas home and business needs into the foreseeable future.

34

35 4-112-104. Creation of the Arkansas Broadband Advisory Council.

36 (a) The Arkansas Broadband Advisory Council is created to:

1 (1) Monitor the broadband based development efforts of other
 2 states and nations in areas such as business, education, and health; and

3 (2) Advise the Governor and the General Assembly on policies
 4 related to making affordable broadband available to every Arkansas home and
 5 business.

6 (b) The council shall include:

7 (1) One (1) representative from each broadband provider
 8 association that exists in the state on the effective date of this chapter
 9 including without limitation the Arkansas Cable Telecommunications
 10 Association and the Arkansas Telecommunications Association;

11 (2) Three (3) members to be appointed by the Governor;

12 (3) Three (3) members to be appointed by the President Pro
 13 Tempore of the Arkansas Senate; and

14 (4) Three (3) members to be appointed by the Speaker of the
 15 Arkansas House of Representatives.

16 (c) The council shall:

17 (1) Provide an annual report to the Governor and the General
 18 Assembly;

19 (2) Provide a final report to the Governor and the General
 20 Assembly through the year ending December 31, 2011; and

21 (3) Expire on June 30, 2012.

22
 23 4-112-105. Broadband service registration.

24 (a) Connect Arkansas will establish a method for broadband service
 25 providers to register areas in which they provide broadband service to enable
 26 Connect Arkansas to target locations where broadband is not currently offered
 27 to Arkansas homes and businesses.

28 (b) Specific registration requirements will be established by Connect
 29 Arkansas, but competitive provider information shall be kept confidential by
 30 Connect Arkansas.

31 (c) Connect Arkansas shall execute nondisclosure agreements with
 32 providers to guarantee confidentiality.

33 (d) Connect Arkansas may disclose areas that are registered, the types
 34 of broadband available in registered areas, and any provider information that
 35 the provider identifies as acceptable for disclosure.

36 (e) Registered areas are subject to verification by Connect Arkansas

1 and by the affected counties, but competitive service provider information
2 shall not be released outside of Connect Arkansas.

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APPROVED: 3/28/2007