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**WTA Supports FCC Small ISP Exemption of Open Internet Order Enhanced  
Transparency Provisions**

**WASHINGTON, D.C. (February 23, 2017)** – WTA – Advocates for Rural Broadband supports today’s action by the Federal Communications Commission to extend the exemption for small internet service providers (ISPs) from the Commission’s 2015 Open Internet Order’s enhanced transparency provisions. The current exemption expired in December 2016.

“We appreciate the FCC taking action to protect our member companies from unnecessarily burdensome regulations that would divert scarce resources from building broadband networks to regulatory compliance,” said Derrick Owens, WTA’s Vice President of Government Affairs. “In addition we thank the bipartisan groups of lawmakers on both sides of the Capitol who have worked on this issue over the past year.”

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*WTA represents more than 325 small, rural telecommunications carriers providing voice, broadband and video-related services in the United States. WTA’s members serve some of the most rural and hard-to-serve communities in the country and are on the forefront of bringing 21st Century telecommunications services to rural America. To learn more about WTA, visit [www.w-t-a.org](http://www.w-t-a.org).*