

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## WTA Applauds FCC Action of USF High Cost Program Budget

**WASHINGTON, D.C. (December 12, 2018)** – The following statement can be attributed to Derrick Owens, Senior Vice President of Government & Industry Affairs for WTA – Advocates for Rural Broadband:

"WTA applauds the FCC for approving an Order today that increases the USF High Cost Program's budget which will help expand broadband access in rural America. The Order ensures the small, rural broadband providers that make up WTA's membership have the resources they need to build out more robust networks to more rural residents, businesses and anchor institutions. WTA thanks the Chairman and his colleagues for their vote in favor of this item. We look forward to working with the Commission on implementation and will be active participants in the Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking process."

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WTA – Advocates for Rural Broadband is a national trade association that represents more than 340 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 <a href="https://www.w-t-a.org">www.w-t-a.org</a>.