

**2023 NYSAC Fall Seminar**

**Standing Committee on Economic Development, Environment & Energy  
Resolution #1**

**Resolution Asking for the Assistance of the ConnectALL Office, Public  
Service Commission, and Federal Communications Commission in Dealing  
with the Uncertainty of Planning for Broadband With and Around Frontier  
Communications' Service Area**

**WHEREAS**, broadband coverage is of paramount importance in ensuring equitable access to information and resources for all New Yorkers; and

**WHEREAS**, Frontier Communications is a significant provider of broadband service in numerous communities across various counties in New York State; and

**WHEREAS**, Frontier Communications has been awarded grants through the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) in multiple communities across the state to enhance broadband infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, through the RDOF, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will disburse up to \$20.4 billion over 10 years to bring fixed broadband and voice service to millions of unserved homes and small businesses in rural America; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a pressing need to address the lack of progress in implementing RDOF projects in awarded areas across multiple counties; and

**WHEREAS**, the excess amount of time allowed for construction under the RDOF program creates significant challenges when our residents, children, and schools have immediate needs; and

**WHEREAS**, comprehensive efforts have been undertaken by all counties to assess and expand broadband coverage, including through the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC)'s and FCC's mapping initiatives; and

**WHEREAS**, counties recognize the importance of collaborating with the New York State ConnectALL Office, PSC, and FCC to secure funding to bridge existing broadband gaps and to ensure a productive partnership with service providers; and

**WHEREAS**, transparent communication and cooperation with broadband service providers are crucial to effectively planning for broadband expansion, including but not limited to providers like Frontier Communications; and

**WHEREAS**, the extended timeline for construction under the RDOF program poses challenges for counties to plan effectively.

1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the New York State Association of  
2 Counties (NYSAC) calls upon New York State’s ConnectALL Office, PSC, and FCC to  
3 facilitate collaborative planning meetings with broadband service providers, including  
4 Frontier Communications, to address the following:

- 5 • The status and expected completion timelines of RDOF projects;
- 6 • Plans for system improvements and broadband expansion initiatives;
- 7 • A viable framework for addressing broadband gaps that counties and customers  
8 have identified; and

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10 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, copies of this resolution be sent to the counties of  
11 New York encouraging member counties to enact similar resolutions; and

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13 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to  
14 Governor Kathy Hochul, ConnectALL Senior Vice President Joshua Breitbart, PSC Chair  
15 and CEO Rory Christian, FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel, and all others deemed  
16 necessary and proper.