

To: Senator Robert Olson, Chair
Senator Mike Petersen, Vice Chair
Senator Marci Francisco
Senator Tom Hawk
Senator Forrest Knox
Senator Jeff Longbine
Senator Julia Lynn
Senator Ty Masterson
Senator Larry Powell
Senator Greg Smith
Senator Rick Wilborn

From: Diane Trinkle,
Director, Nortonville Public Library, Nortonville, KS

Subject: Senate Bill No. 346

Date: February 3, 2016

I ask you today to make 10MBps the standard for broadband available to public institutions in Kansas.

For many years, our library had 1.5 Mbps service. We are fortunate to have a local company that was able to increase this speed to 10MBps, at a cost that was affordable, when paired with E-rate. Not all public institutions have this available to them.

To compare, 1.5Mbps service was like 8 people trying to fit through a 1-1/2 foot doorway at the same time. It just doesn't work. It created a bottleneck and our internet failed regularly. Now, with 10MBps service, it is like 8 people trying to fit through a 10 foot doorway. It isn't the most efficient, but it is much better.

I know many of my colleagues across Kansas are struggling with less than acceptable internet speeds. They need more.

Internet in libraries is used in so many ways including, but not limited to:

- ▲ Owners growing their businesses and entrepreneurs starting them, resulting in increased tax revenue for Kansas.
- ▲ Citizens obtaining health information and insurance.
- ▲ Farmers and ranchers maintaining their source of income.
- ▲ Families keeping in touch.
- ▲ Taxpayers coordinating tax returns.
- ▲ Libraries and other public institutions sharing resources across Kansas ensuring all citizens have equal access to knowledge.
- ▲ College students learning online, resulting in higher incomes and higher income taxes paid to Kansas.
- ▲ Children learning about their world and performing better in school.

Adequate internet in communities changes lives. It matters. I urge you to make this a priority in Kansas.