



March 20, 2017

Congresswoman Anna Eshoo  
241 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Congresswoman Eshoo,

On behalf of the Information Technology Industry Council, I commend you for your long record of leadership on issues of importance to the technology sector, and working to ensure the benefits of technology can be realized by all. A key part of that is to ensure all Americans have access to robust, high-speed broadband connectivity. Unfortunately, still today, not all states and localities are taking the steps necessary to remove barriers to broadband deployment. For these reasons, we strongly support your draft legislation, the Broadband Conduit Deployment Act of 2017.

Internet connectivity is essential today, just as electrification was in the last century. The internet is a necessity for education, government services, public information, commerce, and countless other opportunities. To get to universal coverage in the U.S., we must ensure basic policies are in place to promote and ease deployment of next generation broadband networks and infrastructure. By requiring an evaluation of the necessity of broadband conduit, maintaining an inventory of conduit availability, and codifying other policies that will ease broadband deployment, the Broadband Conduit Deployment Act of 2017 takes an important step toward enabling greater broadband network availability, quality, connectivity, and choice for American consumers.

On behalf of ITI, we thank you again for your work on this draft legislation, and your continuous work to make high-speed broadband ubiquitous. Please consider us a partner as the Broadband Conduit Deployment Act of 2017 is introduced and moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Vince Jesaitis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Vince Jesaitis  
Vice President, Government Affairs  
Information Technology Industry Council