

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 20-1049

**RESOLUTION BY THE WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL TO THE LOUISIANA
SENATE AND THE LOUISIANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN SUPPORT OF
STATE FUNDING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL BROADBAND
INFRASTRUCTURE**

WHEREAS, the Washington Parish Council strives to enhance the quality of life of its residents, both personally and economically, and

WHEREAS, high-speed internet service has become a necessary component to participating in the modern economy, healthcare and education, but this service is unavailable or of an inadequate quality for many residents, and

WHEREAS, residents of Washington Parish deserve the same educational, medical and economic opportunities as citizens in parishes served by high speed internet,

WHEREAS, neighboring states of our region have invested in the development of broadband infrastructure at varying levels, while Louisiana has made no financial investment thus far,

WHEREAS, legislation has been passed over the past year to allow opportunities for installation by private providers using the infrastructure of the Rural Electric Cooperative and the Cooperatives themselves have been given permission to expand into broadband from the Public Service Commission recently,

WHEREAS, legislation has been passed this year to establish a Louisiana Office of Broadband that will allow a designated state office to seek funds and distribute in order to promote broadband installation in Louisiana,

WHEREAS, various departments of the Federal Government have made funds available for expansion of broadband targeted to rural areas. These funds provide an initial step toward bridging the digital divide,

BE IT RESOLVED that the WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL urges the Louisiana Legislature to pass legislation which will invest in the installation of high-speed internet for rural Louisiana.

The above and foregoing having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereupon resulted as follows:


YEAS: (7) Culpepper, Rice, Wagner, Harry, Fornea, McMasters and King

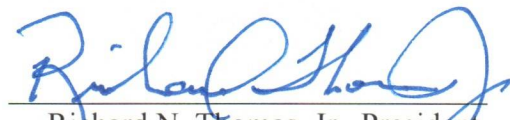
NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

The Resolution was declared adopted on the 14th day of December 2020.

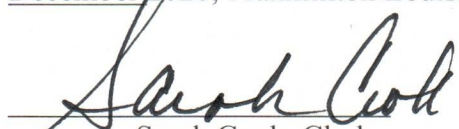

Thomas R. Fornea, Chairman
Washington Parish Council


Richard N. Thomas, Jr., President
Washington Parish Government

CERTIFICATION

I **SARAH COOK, CLERK OF THE WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL** hereby certify that foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Washington Parish Council in Regular Session convened on the 14th day of December, 2020.

GIVEN UNDER MY OFFICIAL SIGNATURE AND SEAL OF OFFICE, this 14th day of December 2020, Franklinton Louisiana.


Sarah Cook, Clerk
Washington Parish Council

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