



PCCA Government Relations Roundtable

PCCA Annual Convention
Tuesday, March 19, 2019
Frigate Bay, St. Kitts

Overview

- ▶ 2019 PCCA Congressional Fly-In
- ▶ Rural Utilities Service; ReConnect Pilot Program
- ▶ Infrastructure Package - “LIFT America” Act
- ▶ Brett Kilbourne - Utilities Technology Council
- ▶ Agriculture Broadband Coalition - Precision Agriculture Connectivity Act
- ▶ Broadband Mapping
- ▶ PCCA Efforts re: FMCSA Hours-of-Service Regs
 - ▶ Ad Hoc Construction Coalition
 - ▶ ANPRM on HOS Regs
- ▶ Jonathan Adelstein - Wireless Infrastructure Association
- ▶ Kansas Damage Prevention Legislation

2019 PCCA Washington Fly-In

TEAM 1	TEAM 2	TEAM 3	TEAM 4	TEAM 5
Minnesota	Missouri, Kansas, Kentucky, Okla.	Ohio, Indiana	Illinois, Wisconsin	East Coast
Irby Construction	Sellenriek Construction	Kenneth G. Myers Construction	Quanta Services	Quanta Services
Anderson Underground	Amerine Utilities Construction	Rep Com International	Push International	Henkels & McCoy
Okay Construction	Prysmian Group	Preformed Line Products	John Deere	Prysmian Group
MP Nexlevel	Ditch Witch	ElectriCom	Sterling Company	Rep Com International
FS3, Inc.				OSP Telecom
American Polywater Corporation				

2019 PCCA Washington Fly-In

- ▶ 6 committees visited - House T&I, E&C; Senate EPW, Commerce, Ways and Means
- ▶ Messages
 - ▶ Introduction to PCCA
 - ▶ Broadband Deployment
 - ▶ DOT Hours-of-Service
 - ▶ Permit Reform
 - ▶ Damage Prevention
 - ▶ Preserving Reg Rollback
- ▶ Wrap Up - Capitol Hill Club
- ▶ Feedback from participants?
 - ▶ Annual event?
 - ▶ Timing?



RUS ReConnect Pilot Program

- ▶ \$600 million in Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018
- ▶ “Rural e-Connectivity Pilot Program” (ReConnect Program)
- ▶ Comments to RUS Notice of Inquiry (NOI)
- ▶ December, 2018 - parameters set in RUS Notice
- ▶ Loans, grants, loan/grant combinations
- ▶ Program to “facilitate broadband deployment in areas of rural America that don’t currently have sufficient access to broadband.”
- ▶ Applicants must be able to supply retail broadband
- ▶ Eligible entities: Cooperatives, non-profits, corporations, LLCs, states, local governments, territories, Indian tribes, etc.

RUS ReConnect Pilot Program

- ▶ “Rural”
 - ▶ Service areas not located in city, town or incorporated area with population less than 20,000
 - ▶ Areas must be completely contained in rural areas or composed of multiple rural areas
- ▶ “Insufficient Service”
 - ▶ 90% households without fixed broadband service of 10/1 Mbps
 - ▶ No part of proposed area can overlap w/service area that has received RUS broadband loan

RUS ReConnect Pilot Program

- ▶ Funds used for:
 - ▶ Construction, improvement/upgrade or acquisition of facilities to provide 25/3 Mbps
 - ▶ Acquisition of existing system without sufficient broadband (25/3 Mbps)
- ▶ Funding Types:
- ▶ Rural Broadband Grant
 - ▶ Applicant provides 25% of project cost
 - ▶ Total of \$200 million in federal funds
 - ▶ \$25 million maximum per project
 - ▶ “Competitive review” based on number of rural premises connected and speeds provided
 - ▶ Areas where 100% households lack sufficient access

RUS ReConnect Pilot Program

▶ Grant/Loan Combo

- ▶ 50/50 – grants/loans (Treasury rate of 3.9%)
- ▶ Total of \$200 million in federal funds
- ▶ \$50 million maximum per project
- ▶ “Competitive review” based on number of rural premises connected and speeds provided
- ▶ Areas where 90% households lack sufficient access

▶ Rural Broadband Loan

- ▶ Fixed loan at 2%
- ▶ Total of \$200 million in federal funds
- ▶ \$50 million maximum per project
- ▶ Funds awarded on “first-come-first-serve” basis for areas where 90% households lack sufficient access

LIFT America Act


- ▶ Leading Infrastructure For Tomorrow's America Act (LIFT Act)
 - ▶ **Secure and Resilient Broadband**
 - ▶ \$40 billion over five years
 - ▶ Three quarters of funding reserved for unserved areas of the country via national reverse auction
 - ▶ Remaining funds to states through state-wide reverse auctions
 - ▶ “Underserved areas” eligible if no unserved areas in a state
 - ▶ Deploy broadband or connective technology to schools and libraries
 - ▶ Fund deployment of Next Generation 9-1-1.

LIFT America Act

- ▶ **Clean Energy Infrastructure**
- ▶ Grid Security and Modernization
 - ▶ \$4 billion over five years for electric grid infrastructure
 - ▶ Grid modernization, security, resiliency, and efficiency.
 - ▶ Funds will support infrastructure improvements to enhance energy security, deployment of smart grid technology, and efficiency upgrades
 - ▶ Includes funding to establish methods to speed electric grid recovery following extreme weather events.
- ▶ Energy Efficient Infrastructure
 - ▶ Any program designed to save energy and address climate change (e.g.: home and school energy efficiency retrofits; emission reduction from older vehicles (school buses); energy efficient water distribution systems)
 - ▶ Strengthen existing energy supply infrastructure and expand renewable energy infrastructure

LIFT America Act

- ▶ Drinking Water Infrastructure
 - ▶ \$21 billion to Drinking Water SRF
 - ▶ “Buy American” for iron and steel
 - ▶ \$1.1 billion to remove / replace sources of lead in DW systems
 - ▶ \$250 million to assess & address vulnerabilities (climate change terrorism, water contamination)
- ▶ Brownfields Development
 - ▶ \$2.7 billion for renewable energy projects on Brownfields sites
- ▶ Sponsors: Frank Pallone(D-NJ), Chair of House E&C
 - ▶ 26 cosponsors - all Democrats

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of blue, ranging from light sky blue to deep navy blue. These shapes are primarily located on the left and right sides of the frame, creating a modern, dynamic feel. The central area is a plain white space where the text is located.

Brett Kilbourne

Utilities Technology Council

Agriculture Broadband Coalition

- ▶ A coalition of 15-20 stakeholders focused on Rural Development
- ▶ Key Issues:
 - ▶ Coverage in Ranch lands and Rangelands
 - ▶ “Technology Neutral”
 - ▶ Access to fastest speeds available
- ▶ Members include:
 - ▶ John Deere
 - ▶ AEM
 - ▶ Farm Bureau
 - ▶ CoBank

The Precision Agriculture Connectivity Act, S 2343 / HR 4881

- ▶ Introduced by Sens Wicker (R-MS), Klobuchar (D-MN), Representatives Latta (R-OH) and Loeb (D-IA)
- ▶ Direct FCC to work with other organizations (DOA/RUS) to establish a Task Force of public and private sector members for meeting the technology needs of precision agriculture
 - ▶ Identify and measure gaps in broadband coverage of croplands and rangelands
 - ▶ Create comprehensive guide of Federal programs/resources working to address unserved croplands and rangelands
 - ▶ Develop policy recommendation to achieve 95 percent coverage of croplands and rangelands by 2025

Precision Agriculture Act (HR 4881 / S 2343)

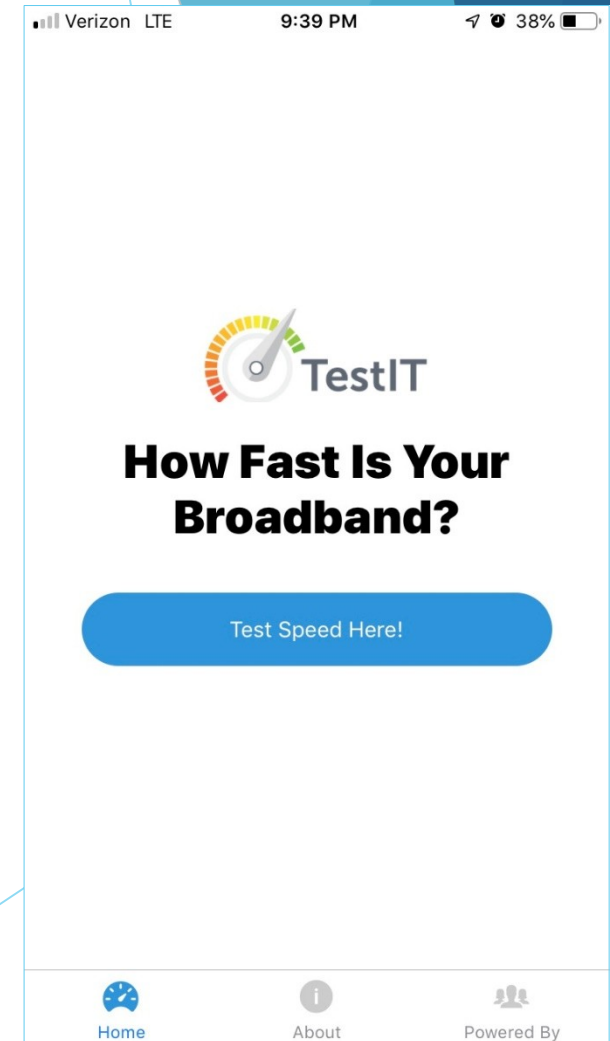
- ▶ Added to the 2018 Farm Bill - Signed into law December 20th, 2018
- ▶ USDA Task Force Structure
 - ▶ 15 voting slots - 1 non-voting slot for the Secretary of Agriculture
 - ▶ Task force modeled on BDAC
 - ▶ Original BDAC did not include construction industry members
 - ▶ Must be announced by December 20th, 2020
 - ▶ Application Process
 - ▶ Self-nominated
 - ▶ NOI Opening on April 1st
 - ▶ Deloitte heavily involved in USDA Precision Ag report
 - ▶ Released in 1-2 months

Precision Agriculture Act (HR 4881 / S 2343)

- ▶ USDA Focuses -
 - ▶ Fastest Speeds available
 - ▶ Getting infrastructure right from the beginning
 - ▶ 10/1 not acceptable
 - ▶ Full Implementation of Farm Bill as quickly as possible
- ▶ Primary USDA Contacts -
 - ▶ Jannine Miller, Senior Advisor for Rural Infrastructure
 - ▶ Ted Kaouk, Chief Data Officer
 - ▶ Carolyn Roddy, RUS Special Advisor

Broadband Mapping

- ▶ FCC Mapping -
 - ▶ Current Structure based on census blocks
 - ▶ Served definition anything above 10/1
 - ▶ Push for 25/1
- ▶ USDA acknowledges lack of reliability in data mapping
- ▶ TestIT App
 - ▶ Available on IOS/Android
 - ▶ Open source data collection
 - ▶ Allows for the collection of user reported speed tests
 - ▶ Produced by
 - ▶ National Association of Counties (NACo), Rural LISC, and Rural Community Assistance Partnership (RCAP)

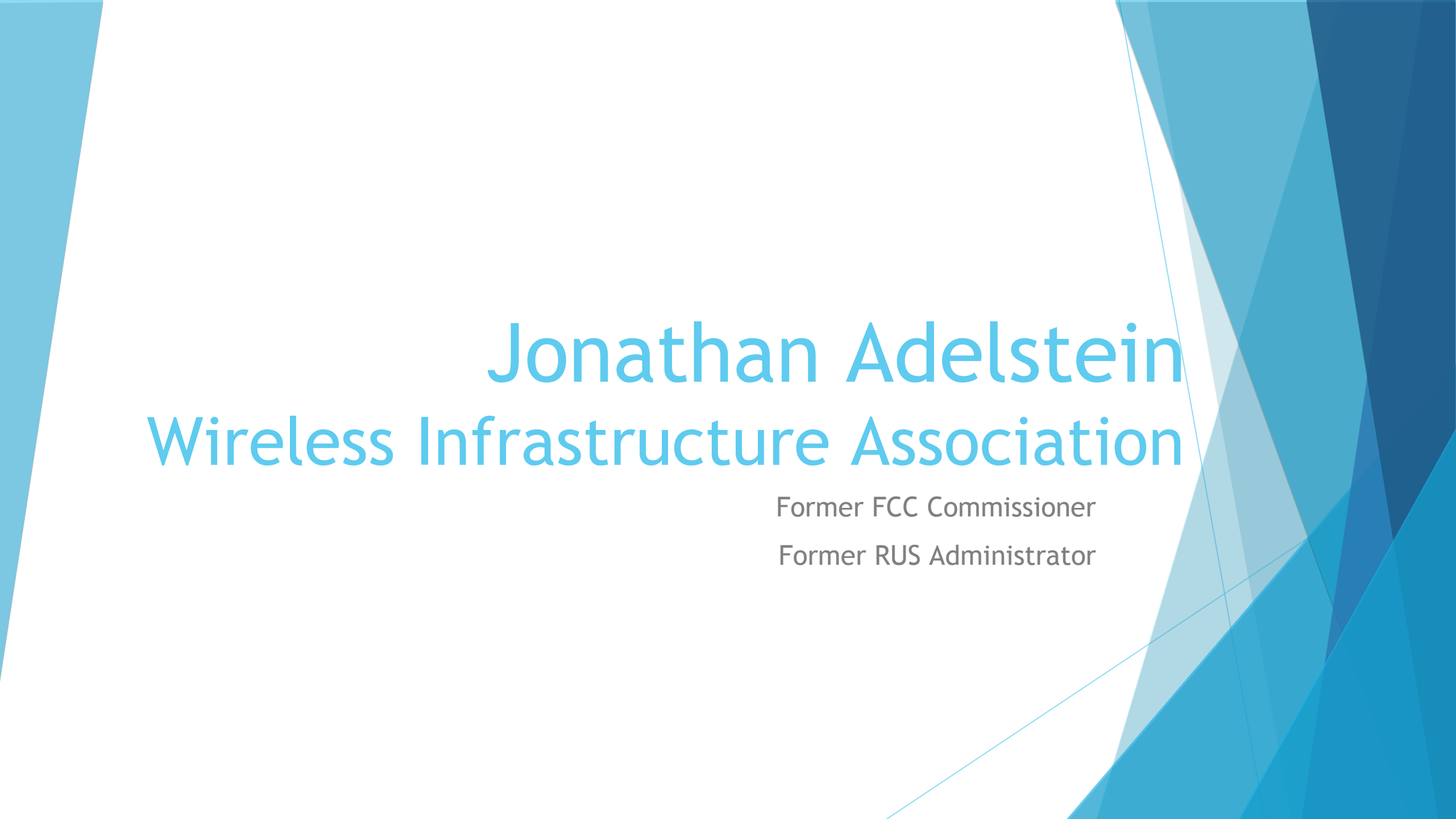


FMCSA Hours-of-Service Regs

- ▶ Establishment of new Coalition
 - ▶ Excavation Contractors align with Highway Lobby
- ▶ Comments to FMCSA ANPRM
 - ▶ Associations and New Coalition
 - ▶ Description of existing exemptions
 - ▶ USV exemption
 - ▶ Short-haul exceptions
 - ▶ NAPA/NRMCA exception for “perishable product”

FMCSA Hours-of-Service Regs

- ▶ “Minor Fixes” vs. “Uniform Exemption”
 - ▶ Expand/Harmonize Short-Haul Exemption
 - ▶ 12-to-14 hour driving time for 150 air-mile
 - ▶ Consistent with long-haul drivers
 - ▶ Remove “Return to Work Reporting Location” Requirement
- ▶ Targeted Legislation
 - ▶ Infrastructure Package
 - ▶ MAP-21 / Next Highway Bill
- ▶ Challenges of 116th Congress

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Jonathan Adelstein

Wireless Infrastructure Association

Former FCC Commissioner

Former RUS Administrator

Kansas Damage Prevention Law

- ▶ KCC previous ruling: facility operator responsible for locating up to household or first building of incorporated area
- ▶ HB 2178: “Operator” (as amended) would exclude those “providing electric service for that portion of an underground facility downstream of the point where ownership of the facility changes
- ▶ HB 2178 passed Kansas House February 21st → Kansas Senate
- ▶ PCCA mobilizes five national excavation associations (AGC, DCA, NUCA, APCA, PCCA)
 - ▶ *“The fact that the Kansas legislature would even consider enacting this provision into state law is astonishing.”*

Kansas Damage Prevention Law

- ▶ **CGA Best Practice 4.21:** “service line is marked in response to a locate request to the operator who uses the service line to pursue a business that derives revenue by providing a product or service to an end-use customer via the service line.”

Kansas Damage Prevention Law

- ▶ Ongoing Muster Campaign for Kansas Legislature Outreach

- ▶ <https://app.muster.com/take-action/7PDUXKH9Q3/>

PCCA Power & Communication Contractors Association Action Center

Take Action: Contact Kansas State Senators

If your company has a presence in the State of Kansas, we're asking for your help. We have been made aware that there is language under consideration in the Kansas legislature that would revise the state's damage prevention statute to limit an electric company's locating responsibilities up to where the ownership of the facility changes.

If you have a business address in Kansas, please take action now and add your address in the forms.

The House passed legislation that includes this language on Feb. 21st. If enacted, the language under consideration in Kansas would compromise damage prevention and public safety, and set a dangerous precedent that could lead to similar problems in other state statutes.

Please weigh in on this issue and send a message to your Kansas State Legislator.

Fill out your info below to continue:

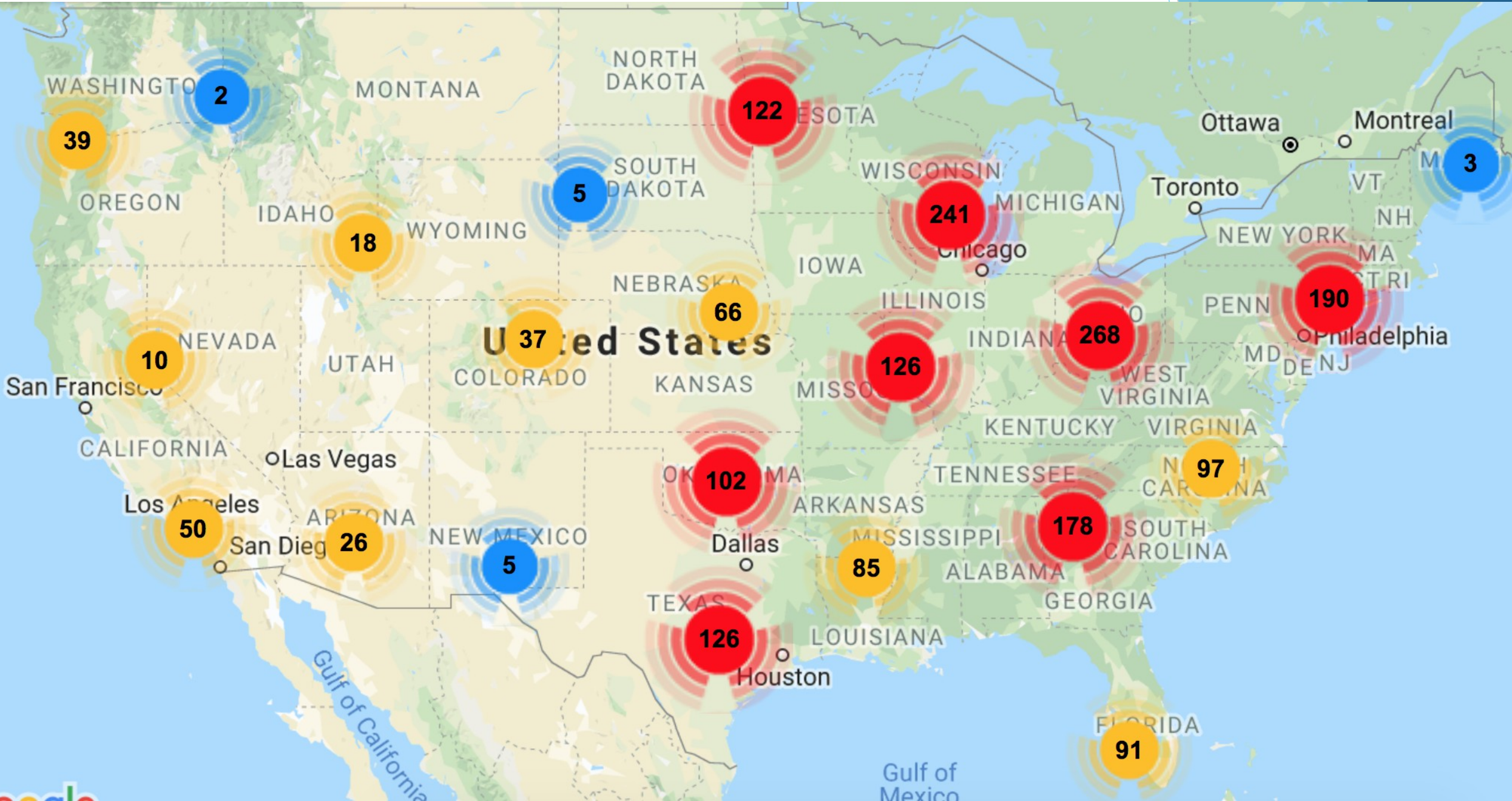
Prefix	First Name	Last Name
Ms. ▾	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Email	Phone Number	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
Street Address	ZIP Code	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
Business Street Address	Business ZIP Code	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
Company Name	<input type="text"/>	

* By taking action you are agreeing to sign up for future communications from Power & Communication Contractors Association.

→ NEXT

- ▶ Sent letter to Senate judiciary committee urging lawmakers vote “No”

PCCA Grassroots



Questions?

Contact:

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kep@wymanassociates.net