

INTRO

Examples/ options:

- A. If you and your family are struggling because you have no broadband Internet access, you need to read this. You are not alone.
- B. Where I live, my family and I do not have access to high speed reliable broadband. This means X, X, and X for our household (no working from home, limited educational opportunities, limited job opportunities, decreased home value, etc.)
- C. Where I live, I have only one choice for Internet service, and we pay XX for XX and it's not competitively priced or what my family needs to participate in the 21st century economy.

ISSUE STATEMENT

There are pockets of underserved areas all across Tennessee. Some of these pockets exist because a state law prohibits municipal fiber optic broadband providers from expanding. While Tennesseans who live in 1 of the 7 municipal internet provider territories have access to speed of light internet, many folks across our state have little to no access to high quality, reliable internet service.

SOLUTION STATEMENT

In Tennessee there are seven electric service providing fiber optic broadband Internet to their citizens. However state laws don't allow these companies to service anyone outside their "electric footprint." If state law was changed to allow service, more Tennesseans would have choice and access to future proof 21st-century communications service.

WHY STATEMENT (CHOOSE 1-3 REASONS)

ECONOMY

- High quality broadband access fuels creativity and 21st century businesses. Without affordable, reliable internet access, local economies are at a disadvantage.
- More than 10,800 Tennessee companies opt for community fiber where available.
- Community owned broadband providers infuse local governments with In Lieu of Tax payments. Tennessee's existing community fiber networks pay millions in in-lieu-of taxes to local government
- Many are left without the ability to work from home, when otherwise that would be a choice and the best option for their families.

EDUCATION

- Without adequate connectivity across Tennessee, there are thousands of students missing an opportunity to learn create, and collaborate online.
- Nontraditional and adult learners can't further their education and take advantage of online learning from home.

HEALTHCARE

- Rural doctors, health clinics and patients can't connect to specialists and tele-health services in other areas and are left with more (and avoidable) travel and longer wait time for important test results.

CALL TO ACTION & CLOSE

JOIN MOVEMENT

- Please join our grassroots group by calling 844.528-7597. This is a toll free call available 24/7. Leave your name, address, phone number, and any email address we might use to keep you updated. You can also visit TN4Fiber.org/ how you can help.
- Social Media – We are on Facebook and you can follow us on Twitter at @TN4Fiber

SIGN PETITION

- Visit the TN4Fiber website and click 'Sign the Petition' to add your name to the statewide petition. Please sign and share widely with friends and family.

TELL US YOUR STORY

- How has the lack of reliable, high speed internet affected your life? Please let tell TN4Fiber at TN4Fiber2015@gmail.com.

CONTACT ELECTED OFFICIALS

- Please voice your opinion by contacting your Tennessee state senator and your Tennessee state representative. Ask your county and city leaders to speak up and help change this law!