



HJR 75 Joint Subcommittee Incentives for Broadband Infrastructure

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“In a paper published in 1936, the British mathematician Alan Turing proved that a digital computer, which at the time existed only as a theoretical machine, could be programmed to perform the function of any other information-processing device. And that’s what we’re seeing today. The Internet, an immeasurably powerful computing system, is subsuming most of our other intellectual technologies. It’s becoming our map and our clock, our printing press and our typewriter, our calculator and our telephone, and our radio and TV.”



— Nicholas Carr, “Is Google Making Us Stupid”, *Atlantic Monthly*, July/August 2008

Implications for Economic Development



“Fundamental elements of a Tech-based Economic Development (TBED) program include the availability of high quality telecommunications systems and affordable high speed Internet connections.”

— *State Science & Technology Institute (SSTI)*

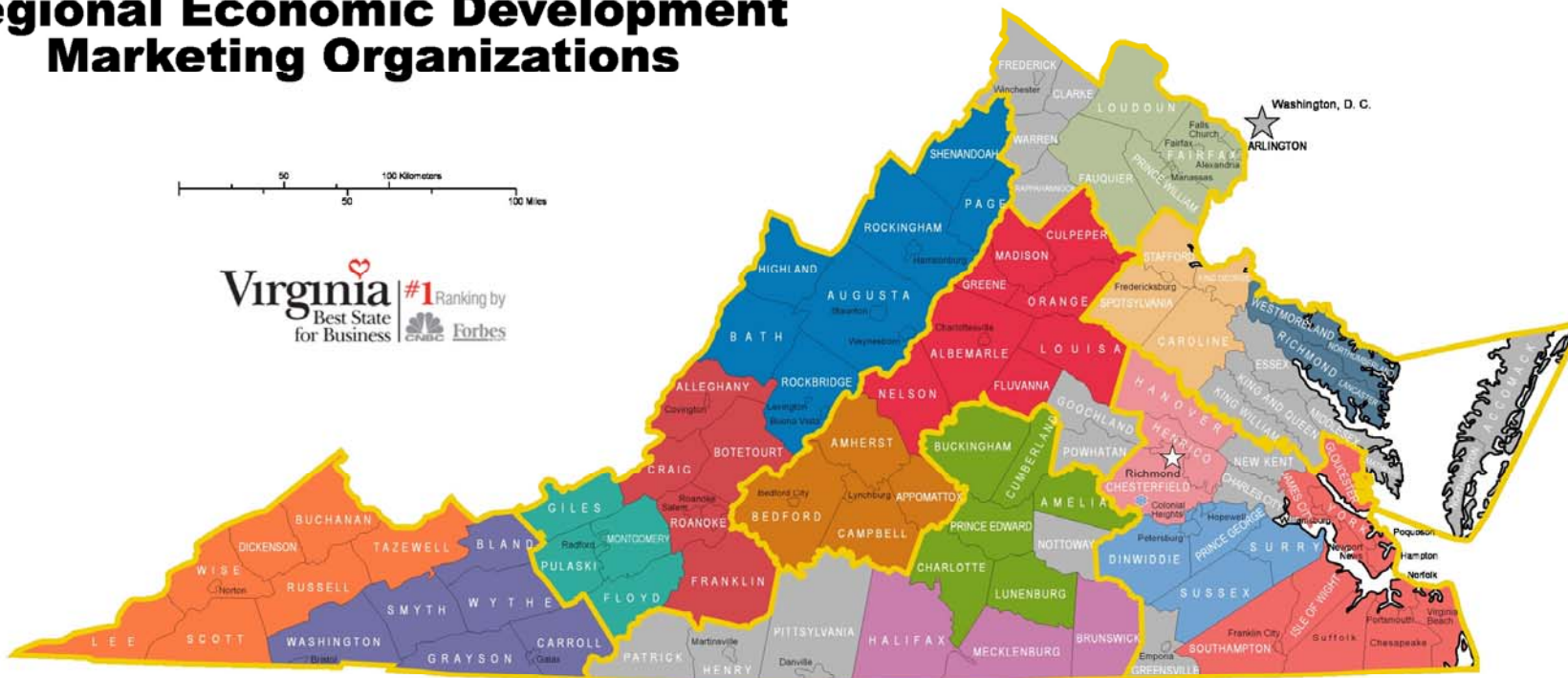
“...employment and economic output...[are] strongly related to broadband deployment, particularly in certain service sectors, such as finance, education, and healthcare. Surprisingly, even manufacturing employment appears to be related to broadband penetration.”

— *Crandell, Lehr, and Litan,
“The Effects of Broadband Deployment on Output and Employment:
A Cross-sectional Analysis of U.S. Data”,
Issues in Economic Policy (The Brookings Institute),
July 2007*

Incentives for Broadband Access

- “Death by distance” – “Last mile” conundrum
- Cannot be solved solely by public sector
- No formal incentive program available (or needed?)
- Goal is to reduce (or delay) capital costs and start-up expenses for ISP’s
- Components of success:
 - use of public and private vertical assets
 - low cost financing of equipment
 - reduced rates for backhaul connections
- Public/private sharing of financial risk is key

Regional Economic Development Marketing Organizations




Virginia **#1** Ranking by
 Best State for Business
 

Virginia Coalfield Economic Development Authority
 Jonathan Belcher, Executive Director
 276.889.0381, Fax: 276.889.1830
 Email: jonathan@vaceda.org

Virginia's @Corridor
 Tom Elliott, Executive Director
 276.783.9474, Fax 276.783.7999
 Email: telliott@acorridor.com

New River Valley Economic Development Alliance
 Eric Bopp, Executive Director
 540.287.0007, Fax 540.267.0013
 Email: abopp@nrvaliance.org

Roanoke Valley Economic Development Partnership
 Beth Doughty, Executive Director
 540.343.1550 x102, Fax 540.344.6098
 Email: beth@roanoke.org

Shenandoah Valley Partnership
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Fredericksburg Regional Alliance
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 540.361.7373, Fax 540.361.7372
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Greater Richmond Partnership
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 804.643.3227, Fax 804.343.7167
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 *Chesapeake participates in both Greater Richmond and Virginia's Gateway.

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