

WASHINGTON WATCH FEDERAL NEWS FOR NEW YORK'S RURAL SCHOOLS

E RATE CALL TO ACTION!

The E Rate program takes fees from cell phone bills and directs them to support connecting rural areas to the internet. E-Rate is a successful program that has proven critically important in the extensive expansion of connectivity for schools and libraries across the nation. Help us clarify that E-Rate is important in supporting school and library access to online resources and communication and collaboration. Help us highlight why the proposed funding caps to E Rate and its specific programs are short sighted policy that will undermine the ability of schools to continue to address growing connectivity needs. Comments are due by July 29, so don't delay.

Simply email your comments to our federal rural advocacy colleagues at AASA.

- If you are pressed for time or need help submitting the comments, AASA staff can submit them on your behalf.
 - For July 29 Comments: Please email Noelle Ellerson Ng (<u>nellerson at aasa.org</u>) your final comments no later than 12 noon ET on Monday
 July 29 with the subject line 'Please file E-Rate comments.'

Please make sure to submit comments on your district letterhead. If you want to make it easy, use the following letter sent by RSA to the FCC as your template.

E Rate funding can make or break your community's future economic viability.

THIS ONE MATTERS!

Here is RSA's letter to the FCC. Copy at will!