



Broadband For All

July 21, 2008

Your July 13 editorial “Strike up the broadband” rightly supports advancing broadband mapping legislation in Congress. Identifying those pockets of the country without access to broadband is an important step toward the goal of connecting all Americans. But the notion that broadband access is reserved for the wealthy is blatantly false. Nearly three out of four Americans who connect to the Internet today do so via broadband. With gas prices what they are, I’m sure they’d be thrilled to learn of their newfound wealth. But the truth is that broadband adoption is accelerating across demographics. In fact, according to the Pew Internet and American Life project, some of the fastest adoption is occurring among working families with incomes under \$40,000.

As we debate national broadband policy, it’s important that we have a clear understanding of the state of US broadband deployment and the vital progress made in recent years. It’s a record to be proud of - and to build on.

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