From:	Russ Fletcher
To:	Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject:	Broadband bill to allow Montana municipalities to provide service gets hearing in House committee
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I would like to request that Missoula consider adding its support to this proposal. It doesn't mean Missoula has to do this, although I think it has been discussed for years, but it does allow other communities to pursue better Internet options. States without restrictions enjoyed higher access to low-priced broadband plans.

Broadband bill to allow Montana municipalities to provide service gets hearing in House committee

"We are falling behind in our economy, and people are feeling it," Kortum told the House Local Government Committee Tuesday afternoon. "Let's give our towns the freedom to innovate and design broadband solutions that fit their unique needs."

LC1539 – An Act Allowing Montana Municipalities to Own and Operate Municipal Broadband Systems

States without restrictions enjoyed higher access to low-priced broadband plans on average.

Municipal Broadband Is Roadblocked Or Outlawed In 22 States States without municipal broadband restrictions have lower internet prices on average.

States without restrictions enjoyed higher access to low-priced broadband plans. Low-priced access data was taken from active internet plans in our database as of Q2 2020.

Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson Signs Law That Opens the Door for Municipal Broadband Networks

“This law opens it up where we can get some new competitors into this field,” said Republican Sen. Ricky Hill, according to the Arkansas Democrat Gazette.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Makes Economic Case for Municipal Broadband

According to a 10-year study, the municipally owned broadband utility of Chattanooga, Tenn., has brought about economic benefits in the billions. The research could play an important role in future political debates.