



NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION *of*
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July 9, 2012

The Honorable Mark Warner
475 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Warner,

The National Association of Realtors® (NAR) applauds the passage of your Rural Broadband Amendment (#2457) during consideration of the Farm Bill. We support the common sense reforms to federal grant making proposed in the Warner Amendment. This amendment ensures that more rural Americans will enjoy the economic benefits that result from increased broadband access.

Realtors® support policies to encourage the growth of strong viable communities. Increased broadband access will promote economic growth and expand opportunities for home sales. A recent Commerce Department study concluded that in communities where there is access to high speed internet, property values are 6% higher. Communities prosper when they gain access to high-speed Internet. Property values increase, businesses grow and jobs are created. Broadband forms the infrastructure for the American economy's digital future. Affordable high-speed broadband will soon become almost as important as water and electricity, and the absence of broadband makes a community a less attractive location for new investment and development.

We encourage you to work with the House to keep the Warner Rural Broadband Amendment in the final Farm Bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Moe Veissi', with a horizontal line underneath.

Maurice "Moe" Veissi
2012 President, National Association of REALTORS®



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