



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

Office of Native Affairs and Policy

From: Native <Native@fcc.gov>

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Subject: FCC Announces Comment Due Dates for Preventing Digital Discrimination NPRM and Creation of New Consumer Broadband Story Collection

Greetings from the Federal Communications Commission's Office of Native Affairs and Policy.

The Commission recently announced the comment due dates for the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) on Preventing Digital Discrimination that was released on December 22, 2022. The NPRM seeks comment on proposals to facilitate equitable access to broadband internet services. The NPRM has now been published in the Federal Register. The NPRM is available at <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-takes-next-steps-combat-digital-discrimination-0>.

Comments are due on February 21, 2023, reply comments are due March 21, 2023.

The goal of this proceeding is to create a framework for combating discrimination of access to broadband internet services based on income level, race, ethnicity, color, religion, or national origin to ensure equal access for historically excluded and marginalized communities, including rural and Tribal areas. In addition to seeking comment on the meaning and scope of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act's statutory language, the NPRM also seeks comment on various proposals set forth in the record following the Commission's March 2022 [Notice of Inquiry \(https://www.fcc.gov/fcc-seeks-comment-preventing-and-eliminating-digital-discrimination\)](https://www.fcc.gov/fcc-seeks-comment-preventing-and-eliminating-digital-discrimination).

The Commission must implement its digital non-discrimination rules by November 15, 2023. State, local and Tribal governmental entities and other stakeholders are encouraged to review the NPRM and to consider filing comments.

Relatedly, on January 25, 2023, the FCC announced a new outreach effort that allows consumers directly to share their stories and experiences in obtaining broadband internet access via a new online [form \(https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov/hc/en-us/articles/12303650382868-Broadband-Access-Experience-Form\)](https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov/hc/en-us/articles/12303650382868-Broadband-Access-Experience-Form). Stories shared by consumers will help to inform the work of the Task Force to Prevent Digital Discrimination, which Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel established in 2022 as a cross-agency effort focused on creating rules and policies to combat digital discrimination and to promote equal access to broadband.

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