

February 1, 2022

Chair Lively, Vice Chair Cate, Vice Chair Kropf, Members of the Committee:

I am writing as a member of the Ashland community to **express my strong support for House Bill 4092.**

Ashland is a small town with 20,000 citizens in a rural area that had the foresight, over twenty years ago, to build its own broadband internet service, the Ashland Fiber Network (AFN). I want my fellow Oregonians to have the same fast, reliable internet access that I have.

To ensure that digital inclusion make connectivity accessible to all Oregon citizens, major investments need to be made. With the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) monies and funding from the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act (IIJA) going directly to the states, Oregon can leverage an expected \$200 million dollars to expand internet service in underserved communities.

I urge you to vote yes on **House Bill 4092.**

Respectfully,
Laurier McManus
Ashland, Oregon