

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING HOUSE BILL NO. 2108 AND REQUESTING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO REJECT THIS AND ANY COMPANION BILL LIMITING OR IMPEDING A LOCALITY'S AUTHORITY TO IMPROVE ITS TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE OR TO EXTEND TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES TO UNSERVED AREAS OF THE LOCALITY.**

WHEREAS, on January 11, 2017 House Bill No. 2108 ("HB2108") was introduced to the Virginia General Assembly as the Virginia Broadband Deployment Act (the "Act"); and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Chesapeake ("City") supports the expedition, deployment, and reduction of the cost of broadband access in the Commonwealth; however, passage of HB2108 and the Act would produce results that directly conflict with these purposes; and

WHEREAS, enhancing connectivity is a means of improving quality of life, expanding access to City services and public information, and encouraging economic development and diversification of business in the City, the region and the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, passage of the Act would greatly hinder the City's ability to improve and expand public access to broadband telecommunications services and facilitate technological connectivity for the above purposes throughout the City and especially to currently unserved areas of the City by establishing severe restrictions and administrative burdens on the City's ability to improve and expand access to these services; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of Chesapeake recognizes the importance of each locality's ability to manage its own communication infrastructure in order to foster technological advancement, public access to government services and information, and economic development; and

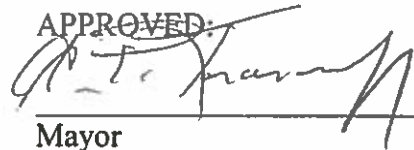
WHEREAS, passage of HB2108 would take away localities' authority to utilize, expand, and manage their telecommunication infrastructure in furtherance of achieving timely and affordable access to broadband and technological infrastructure, and should be rejected.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Chesapeake opposes HB2108 and that the Members of the Virginia General Assembly are hereby requested to reject or amend HB2108 and any companion bill limiting or unduly impeding broadband deployment or expansion by a locality; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager is directed to forward this resolution to the Members of the Virginia House of Delegates and Virginia Senate representing the City of Chesapeake and to provide any additional information concerning unserved areas of the City of Chesapeake that would be negatively impacted by the passage of this or any other legislation that so restricts and burdens the ability of the City to respond to the technological needs of all of its citizens and to provide any additional information or assistance to the Chesapeake General Assembly Delegation supporting opposition to this bill.

ADOPTED by the Council of the City of Chesapeake, Virginia on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2017.

APPROVED:

  
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Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Clerk of the Council