



Telecommunications Principles

According to the Federal Communications Commission, only 4.97% of all television and full-power broadcast radio stations are owned by women. In addition, technology and telecommunications costs are disproportionate to small businesses. Sixty-six percent of small businesses use broadband high-speed internet access, with 40.7% agreeing that broadband most impacted their business by increasing workplace efficiency.

1) Increase Women and Minority Media Ownership

The government and private industry should work together to increase the number of commercial television and radio stations owned by women and minorities. A major impediment to minority/women-owned stations is access to capital.

2) Broadband Access Should Be Available to All

Broadband access is essential to the success of most small businesses. The current divide between urban and rural area access to broadband is still too wide. Broadband deployment is critical to a pro-growth economic policy for small business.

3) Keep the Internet Free of Cumbersome Regulation

Government regulation of the internet is not in the interest of small businesses because over regulation stymies innovation and is not reflective of the marketplace. Since small businesses are dependent on emerging technology to stay competitive, keeping the internet free of price controls, tariffs and other government regulation is critical to their success.

4) Permanently Extend Internet Tax Moratorium

The current ban on internet taxes should be made permanent. Small businesses would be hampered by a tax on this critical business resource.

5) Ensure Privacy Security

Secure internet transactions, disaster resistant technology and protected business data are all vital to the success of women-owned businesses.