

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-08-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WESTON, COLLIN COUNTY, TEXAS, STRONGLY OPPOSING THE AMERICAN BROADBAND ACT OF 2023 AND URGING ITS DEFEAT IN CONGRESS.

WHEREAS, the 1996 Telecommunications Act (TCA) granted to local authorities the power to regulate the deployment of wireless telecommunications infrastructure in their communities, subject to certain prescribed restrictions; and

WHEREAS, Congress is considering the passage of The American Broadband Act of 2023 (H.R. 3557), legislation introduced with little notice and without full text, and based on a single hearing in which only supporters of national pre-emption of local authority were heard; and

WHEREAS the proposed legislation that would override the TCA, drastically curtails the rights of local authorities and bestows unprecedented power on the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), a politically appointed, non-cabinet level body; and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation would grant virtually unlimited access to public rights of way in every municipality in the country to purveyors of wireless technology and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation would replace local federal district courts with the FCC as the reviewing body for challenges to local government decisions regarding wireless facility applications, requiring local authorities to travel to Washington DC to defend their actions; and

WHEREAS, the legislation would mandate that any decision by a local authority to deny a permit for a wireless facility must be accompanied by a written explanation of the denial on the same day such decision was made; and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation significantly weakens important environmental controls and historic preservation laws as they relate to the deployment of wireless infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the legislation would also eliminate cable franchise renewals and restrict the ability of state or local franchising authorities to enforce franchise obligations, while granting cable operators the right to use local rights-of-way to provide non-cable services while prohibiting local authorities from imposing any fees for such use of those rights-of-way.


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WESTON, TEXAS:

SECTION 1 OPPOSITION

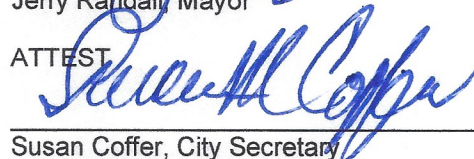
That the City of Weston, Texas, in Collin County, strongly opposes the American Broadband Act of 2023 and urges its defeat in Congress.

RESOLVED AND ENTERED by this 5th day of AUGUST, 2023.

APPROVE


Jerry Randall, Mayor

ATTEST


Susan Coffey, City Secretary