

Public Policy and Community Informatics

1. Allen, J. C. and Koffler, E. (1999). *The Telecommunications Act of 1996: Its implementation in the U.S. South*. Mississippi State, MS: Southern Rural Development Center (SRDC Publication 211-D). Retrieved on July 17, 2007 from srdc.msstate.edu/publications/allen.pdf

There have been dramatic changes in the regulatory environment since the passage of the Telecommunication Act of 1996. This report provides a brief overview and history of telecommunications regulation and the 1996 Act. This report reviews the evidence concerning the importance of telecommunications technology in rural areas and innovations in telecommunications that are important for rural areas. A key contribution of this report is the development of a checklist of issues that rural areas should consider when outlining Telecommunications Policy for their region.

2. Bertot, J. C., & McClure, C. R. (2000). *Public Libraries and the Internet 2000: Summary findings and data tables*. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science.

These are summary findings of public library access to and use of the Internet in 2000. The survey reviewed Internet connection status, database subscription, connection speed, funding sources, computer equipment availability and general public availability of 1,108 library outlets. Additional issues concerning disability access, internet training services, policies on acceptable use and filtering software and other specialized equipment issues were also covered.

3. Boerner, G. L. (2002, October 1). The brave new world of wireless technologies: A primer for educators. *Syllabus Magazine*. Retrieved on July 17, 2007 from <http://campustechnology.com/articles/39244/>.

4. Bohland, J., Papadakis, M., et al. (2002). *Creating the CyberSouth*. Retrieved on July 2, 2007 from <http://www.southern.org/pubs/pubs.shtml#tech>.

5. Choura, R. G. (2003, May). Local governments and universities cooperate to expand broadband telecom services: The broadband regional affiliation for managed planning (B-RAMP) and the Michigan State University site for information and telecommunication experimentation (M-SITE). *Government Information Quarterly*, 20(2), 167-176.

This paper highlights cooperative projects between local governments in Michigan and Michigan State University with the intended objective of further expanding broadband telecommunications services to the state's rural areas.

6. Cronin, F. J., & Herbert, P. L. (1994). Inequities in the benefits and costs of telecommunications across stakeholder groups. *Telecommunications Policy*, 18(4), 306-320.

This paper develops a framework to quantify the costs of benefits of telecommunications across diverse stakeholder groups (age, income, and geography). Their results suggest that there are substantial differences in the net benefits of telecommunications across these different groups. Even when special assistance programs are taken into consideration, rural, low-income and the elderly have considerably lower net benefits from telecommunications than high-income and urban households. The paper concludes that while public policy programs to subsidize telecommunications access are important, they should be targeted to ensure that these programs are maximizing the potential benefits of telecommunications access.

7. Doty, P., & Erdelez, S. (2002). Information micro-practices in Texas rural courts: Methods and issues for e-government. *Government Information Quarterly*, 9(4), 369-387.

This paper reviews an empirical study of governmental actors in rural Texas courts. The study uses multiple data collection and analysis techniques to more completely describe governmental actor's information behavior. The objective of the paper is to fully understand the challenges inherent to e-government. The authors argue that for e-government to achieve its potential, a substantial and in-depth understanding of governmental actors jobs responsibilities, key information, and communication patterns is necessary.

8. Gillett, S. E. (2000). Universal Service: Defining the policy goal in the Age of the Internet. *The Information Society*, 16(2), 147-149.

This paper argues that the current approach to universal service as it relates to the Internet is misplaced. The policy focus is almost exclusively on Internet physical connectivity, while the Internet itself is largely an overlay network that often piggybacks on the existing telecommunications infrastructure. This author argues instead for a policy focus on Internet services and the end user equipment and training needed to access key Internet services.

9. Hollister, D. (2001, Spring). The fiber optic railway town: Chattanooga at a technical crossroads. Retrieved on July 17, 2007 from <http://www.chattmag.com/www/docs/2.101>.

10. Kennedy, C. H. (2001). *An Introduction to U.S. telecommunications law*. Artech House.

This book provides a general overview and discussion of telecommunications law, with particular emphasis on the legal and business problems in the industry. The book details the legal and regulatory environment in which regulated telecommunications companies operate. The first part of the book covers the characteristics of incumbent local exchange carriers (ILEC's) and their operation; while the second part of the book covers non-ILEC's and their unique characteristics and market organization. Finally, a 35 page appendix details the economic backdrop of telecommunications law.

11. Lentz, R., & Oden, M. (1999, September). *The telecommunications complex in the Mississippi Delta region, 1988-1996: Implications for economic development policy*. Jackson, MS: Enterprise Corporation of the Delta.

12. McDowell, S. D., Stover, S., et al. (Eds.). Symposium issue: Setting the agenda for rural broadband. *Government Information Quarterly*, 20(2), 85-191.

13. National Research Council, Committee on Broadband Last Mile Technology, Computer Science and Telecommunications Board, Division on Engineering and Physical Sciences. (2002). *Broadband: Bringing home the bits*. Washington, D.C.: National Academy Press. Retrieved on July 17, 2007 from <http://books.nap.edu/books/0309082730/html/index.html>

This report reviews the diverse issues related to the so called "last-mile" or "first-mile" (depending upon the perspective) Internet connectivity problem. The report discusses the technology, economics, politics, and strategies surrounding the current broadband debate. The paper concludes with recommendations geared towards improving broadband's deployment and use.

14. United States. National Telecommunications and Information Administration *National Telecommunications and Information Administration [Web site]*. Retrieved on July 2, 2007 from <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/>

"The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) is the President's principal adviser on telecommunications and information policy issues, and in this role frequently works with other Executive Branch agencies to develop and present the Administration's position on these issues."

(<http://www.ntia.doc.gov/ntiahome/aboutntia/aboutntia.htm>)

15. Schmandt, J., Williams, F., & Wilson, R. H. (Eds.). (1989). *Telecommunications policy and economic development: The new state role*. New York, NY: Praeger.

This book reviews how states have changed their approach to telecommunications regulation and planning since the breakup of AT&T in 1984. The book examines the major issues of telecommunications regulation, along with the relationship between telecommunications and economic development. Finally the book describes and evaluates the telecommunications experience of nine states.

16. Schwartz, G. (1990). Telecommunications and economic development policy. *Economic Development Quarterly*, 4, 83-91.

17. Stover, S., & Berquist, L. (1999, November). *Telecommunications infrastructure development: The state and local role* (P99-12). Columbia, MO: The Rural Policy Research Institute.

Retrieved on July 17, 2007 from

<http://www.utexas.edu/research/tipi/reports2/newcastle4.pdf>

This report examines state and local programs aimed at the development of advanced information technology infrastructure for their region. The goal of this project is to examine the importance of state and local roles in further advancing technology infrastructure. In particular the report highlights state level innovation that; promotes competition, utilizes state universal funds to encourage universal service, and improves rural telecommunications infrastructure. This report also identifies the importance of innovative telecommunications infrastructure and the role of state and municipal governments in promoting deployment.

18. Sullivan, R. J. (2000). *Financial industry perspectives: How has the adoption of Internet banking affected performance and risk in banks?* Kansas City, Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City: pp. 1-16.

This article reviews the impact of Internet banking on the financial performance of 10th district banks from 1999-2000.