

22 E. Fifth Street Chamber Plaza Dayton, OH 45402-2400 www.daytonchamber.org

March 27, 2015

The Honorable John Kasich Governor, State of Ohio 77 S. High St., 31st Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Governor Kasich,

The Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce represents over 2,700 businesses, which employ over 200,000 employees throughout a nine county region in southwest Ohio. The Dayton Chamber has a strong foundation in government policy that eliminates the barriers to business growth and removes burdensome government regulations. It is with these core principals in mind that the Dayton Chamber would like to relay its support for the telecom provisions in the "as-introduced" state operating budget, HB 64.

The telecom provisions in your Executive Budget removes language that would prohibit telephone providers from transitioning basic local exchange service to an internet protocol based service. The removal of this language is a reflection of our evolving technology industry in Ohio and will allow telephone providers to re-invest funding into new and innovative technologies that will benefit the Dayton and Ohio business communities. Additionally, the referenced telecom language provides appropriate consumer protections that give consumers and businesses the confidence that they will be able to maintain appropriate communication access and services. This language is appropriate public policy that reduces the burden on Ohio businesses and is supportive of changing technologies.

Thank you for including this language in your Executive Budget and we look forward to it being enacted.

Sincerely

Phillip L. Parker

President & CEO

Cc:

Representative Ryan Smith

Representative Andy Thompson