

Congress of the United States
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Small Business
2561 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-6515

NOTICE OF HEARING

September 6, 2019

3:30 P.M., University of Maine at Machias

Lecture Hall Science 102

116 Obrien Ave

Machias, ME 04654

TO: Members, Subcommittee on Contracting and Infrastructure

FROM: Jared Golden, Chairman

DATE: Friday, August 30, 2019

The Committee on Small Business Subcommittee on Contracting and Infrastructure will hold a field hearing titled, “Connecting Rural Small Businesses to Broadband: Challenges, Successes, and How to Do Better.” The hearing is scheduled to begin at **3:30 P.M. on Friday, September 6, 2019 at the University of Maine at Machias, Lecture Hall Science 102, 116 Obrien Ave, Machias, ME 04654.**

Access to reliable and affordable broadband service is imperative to not only the success of small businesses, but the overall economic development of a region. In many rural parts of the country, however, reliable access is far from guaranteed. Over 24 million Americans, the vast majority of whom live in rural areas, lack access to broadband at benchmark speeds. The hearing will focus on broadband deployment efforts in rural America and the challenges small firms in those areas face without reliable broadband services. Additionally, witnesses will suggest potential policy changes Congress could make to improve broadband access in the nation’s rural areas.

If you or your staff have questions, please contact Meagan Sunn, Professional Staff Member for the Committee, at 202-225-4038.