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January 8, 2021

Support Senate Bill 2111

Chairman David A. Clemens

Senate Transportation Committee

Chairman Clemens and Members of the Senate Transportation Committee:

AT&T writes to support Senate Bill 2111 which would authorize lease agreements with public and private entities for radio tower space on State-owned radio towers and land where the towers are located.

Providing coverage in a largely rural state such as North Dakota is a challenge for wireless carriers. Anytime there is an opportunity to use existing infrastructure to locate wireless facilities it is a win for North Dakota consumers. This is of particular benefit to North Dakota first responders as AT&T seeks to continue its build out for FirstNet.

The efficiencies that this legislation will create is a testament to the North Dakota Department of Transportation and the Information Technology Department's goals to expand service to the furthest corners of the State in support of its first responders. AT&T would like to thank the North Dakota Department of Transportation and the North Dakota Information Technology Department for supporting the FirstNet build out in North Dakota. AT&T is proud to support this legislation and would appreciate the support of the Senate Transportation Committee.

Sincerely,

President, Northern Plains States

External Affairs