



**Delaware County  
Chamber of Commerce**

*Driving Business Forward*

---

August 6, 2018

The Honorable Robert W. Godshall  
Chairman  
House Consumer Affairs Committee  
Pennsylvania House of Representatives  
150 Main Capitol Building  
PO Box 202053  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2053

**Re: Public hearing on small wireless cell deployment focusing on HB 2564**

Dear Chairman Godshall:

On behalf of our 1300 Members the Delaware County Chamber of Commerce is in support of HB2564, introduced by Rep Frank Farry. The legislation provides for small wireless facilities deployment.

As you know, Smart Phones have grown in capacity and usage. This massive increase in potential has been accompanied by a massive surge in data usage. And, as more items are connected to the internet – from cars and trash cans to street lights and soda fountains, demand will continue to increase.

What's more, Pennsylvanians are cutting the cord at rapid rates – relying on their mobile devices not just for calls, but for entertainment, education and more. This is putting a great deal of strain on networks. The large network towers currently in use will not be able to keep up with the increasing demand.

Thankfully there is a new technology called small cells that can be installed to enhance network reliability. Encouraging the deployment of small cell technology is a major step we can take to ensure businesses and consumers have the fast, reliable access to mobile networks they want and need. Small cells help complement more traditional, preexisting cell towers to provide further coverage to businesses in high-traffic areas. Along with providing extended coverage, the addition of small cells prepares mobile networks for further upgrades to allow for increased download speeds and capabilities. The internet is the backbone of the economy and the future economic growth that is critical to both the United States and to the State of Pennsylvania.

However, there are impediments that wireless companies face when trying to expand network capacity. One key chokepoint that wireless companies face is the daunting process of having to



**Delaware County  
Chamber of Commerce**

*Driving Business Forward.*

---

go city by city to negotiate regulatory and fee agreements for small cells. The process engenders both delays and uncertainty, making it harder for companies to install the networks that are needed to usher in economy of the future.

That's why we need new statewide rules that would hasten the installation of this new technology, while respecting the authority of the local leaders and the communities they serve. House Bill 2564 is a critical part for updating these rules. Smart, streamlined rules will trigger new investment in our communities that will help support community and economic development and strong, reliable and fast mobile broadband connections for our residents and businesses. The way people use technology is evolving, so our state policies need to evolve, too.

Creating new rules that will help speed up the installation of small cells will allow further integration of business tools that make connecting with employees and customers easier and more efficient.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Trish McFarland".

**Trish McFarland**  
President