



JOSH STEIN
ATTORNEY GENERAL

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

December 14, 2022

North Carolina Senate President Pro Tempore Phil Berger
North Carolina House of Representatives Speaker Tim Moore
Co-Chairs, Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations

Senator Danny Earl Britt, Jr.
Senator Warren Daniel
Representative James Boles, Jr.
Representative Allen McNeill
Representative Carson Smith
Co-Chairs, Appropriations Subcommittee on Justice and Public Safety

North Carolina General Assembly
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601-1096

RE: N.C.G.S. § 114-2.4A and §114-2.5; Report on Settlement

Dear Members:

I am proud to share with you the news that my office will be sending \$7,621,737.90 to you from our recent settlement with Google over its location tracking practices.

Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 114-2.4A(d) and 115C-457.3, I urge the General Assembly to appropriate these funds to expand access to broadband in underserved areas, especially the rural parts of our state. While we have long known the importance of sufficient broadband access to education, health care, and business, the COVID-19 pandemic helped us to appreciate it in a new way.

Our lives are increasingly online, and our state must have a strong broadband infrastructure to ensure that people can live their lives to the fullest.

December 14, 2022

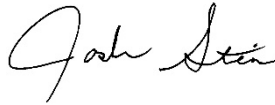
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We want North Carolina to remain a place where our residents will want to live, work, and grow their families.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to working with you in the coming legislative session to find ways to bridge the digital divide so that we can better serve the people of our state.

We will be happy to respond to any questions you may have regarding this report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Josh Stein". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a stylized "S".

Josh Stein

cc: Sean Hamel, NCGA Fiscal Research Division
Mark White, NCGA Fiscal Research Division
Morgan Weiss, NCGA Fiscal Research Division