

**Carlson, Joni (UTC)**

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**From:** Saunders, Wilford (UTC)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 24, 2007 2:50 PM  
**To:** UTC DL Records Center  
**Subject:** 070986  
**Attachments:** Judy Deval's attachment.pdf

Please add the email below and the attachment to the docket in UT-070986, the broadband study.

Regards -- Will  
[wsaunders@utc.wa.gov](mailto:wsaunders@utc.wa.gov)  
 (360)664-1245

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**From:** Judy [mailto:jd@midvalleytv.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 24, 2007 1:01 PM  
**To:** Saunders, Wilford (UTC)  
**Subject:** Is Internet Tax Extension really necessary?

Mr. Saunders,  
 In relevance to the Washington State Broadband study I am forwarding this message for your review of what the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities found. It may be of use to contact this organization and see how much they spent on a study and what type of study they used.  
 I hope this proves helpful.

Judy Devall  
 MidValley Television Community TV Manager  
 WATOA Immediate Past President

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**From:** Gerry Lederer [mailto:glederer@millervaneaton.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 21, 2007 10:54 AM  
**To:** members@lists.natoa.org  
**Subject:** [members] Is Internet Tax Extension really necessary?

I shared the attached study with the Policy Committee yesterday and a couple of folks asked that I share it on the whole members' listserv. Here is my transmittal email:

A wonderful study recently released by The Center for Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP)  
<http://www.cbpp.org/9-11-07sfp.htm> found:

- The major barriers to greater household subscribership are lack of computer ownership and not being aware of the potential benefits of being online, not the price of Internet access, according to the Pew Internet Project and the Park Associates market research firm.
- Every country that leads the U.S. in broadband deployment and uptake does tax access, often at rates 2-3 times greater than in the U.S..
- Rates of broadband deployment and household subscriptions are no lower in states that tax access than in states that do not.
- Five of the states currently taxing access are among the first in which Verizon and AT&T are deploying state-of-the-art fiber-optic networks.
- In addition, state and local governments play a critical role in giving many low-income people their first hands-on exposure to the Internet (e.g., in public libraries and schools) and in making broadband more available (e.g., through municipal wireless networks in small towns). Depriving

states and localities of the funds they use to support these services by permanently banning taxation of Internet access is likely to widen, not close, the “digital divide.”

- Taxation of Internet access is a “red herring” in the digital divide debate.

**Gerry**

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