

## Beshear Joining Fight to Block FCC's Rollback of Broadband Protections or Net Neutrality

Federal action haphazard, preempts state and local broadband service regulations

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Aug. 20, 2018) – Attorney General Andy Beshear is asking an appeals court to block the federal government's retreat from previous broadband protections that were meant to keep broadband and wireless providers from slowing or blocking Kentuckians' internet service.

The protections, known as Net Neutrality, are at the heart of a lawsuit by Beshear and 22 other attorneys general asking the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit to vacate and reverse the 2017 rollback of the regulations by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

The brief by the AGs claims that the FCC's order is arbitrary and capricious and puts consumers at risk of abusive practices by broadband providers; and that the FCC's order preempts state and local regulation of broadband service.

"The internet is a part of our infrastructure that is just as critical as our roads and bridges," Beshear said. "Small business, school districts and rural hospitals rely on the internet to help Kentucky families earn a living, educate our children and to provide critical medical services in every part of our state. We cannot give the power to slow, change or even shut down these services to a handful of major companies and simply trust they will do the right thing."

According to the brief, the AGs argue that for more than 15 years the FCC has agreed that "an open internet free from blocking, throttling or other interference by service providers is critical to ensure that all Americans have access to the advanced telecommunications services that have become essential for daily life."

The Dec. 14, 2017 order by the FCC represents a dramatic and unjustified departure from this long-standing commitment, the AGs argue.

The brief chronicles a list of companies and organizations that filed complaints or comments with the FCC but was not listed in the FCC's final order. They include AARP, ADT Corporation, Amazon, American Association of Community Colleges, American Library Association, Apple, Black Women's Roundtable, Charter Communications, Common Cause, Hispanic Technology and Telecommunications Partnership, Microsoft Corporation, NAACP, National Newspaper Publishers Association, Netflix, Twitter, United Church of Christ and Vimeo.

More than 20 million companies, organizations and individuals participated in the comment period.

Neighboring state AGs participating in the lawsuit include Illinois and Virginia.

In April, Beshear called on Kentucky's executive branch to offer state protections to Kentuckians through an executive order similar to ones issued by governors in Hawaii, Montana, New Jersey, New York and Vermont.

"If broadband or mobile internet service providers want to do business with the state, we should require they adhere to certain internet neutrality principles," Beshear said. "We want to attract companies that are willing to provide reliable, high-quality broadband internet service to all Kentuckians."

## Appropriations Legislation Will Provide Our Military With The Support They Deserve

Senate is expected to vote on the measure this week.

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) delivered the following remarks today on the Senate floor regarding the Senate's continued work on appropriations:

"This week, the Senate is considering the eighth and ninth of twelve appropriations measures for FY 19. They'll deliver on some of the most important promises we make to the American people. First and foremost is our promise to defend the nation -- and to meet our obligation to the brave men and women who do so. To ensure that if we send them into battle, they will be prepared and equipped to prevail.

"Secretary Mattis and our nation's top military commanders have made their assessments perfectly clear. Our security and our interests are challenged every day, across the globe, by a wide array of threats, whether nation states or terrorist groups. The destabilizing influences of Iran in the Middle East, and Russia in Eastern Europe. The challenges we face on the Korean peninsula. The security of our allies and the stability of international commerce in the Pacific.

"Our leaders have outlined the threats we face and the strategies it will take to check them. But they've also explained how the past decade's pattern of inconsistent and insufficient funding undermined readiness and borrowed from the future. But this Congress and this president are determined to right the ship. Earlier this year, we did away with the arbitrary spending caps that had cut our military readiness and modernization. We passed a defense bill that authorized the largest year-on-year increase in defense funding in fifteen years.

"Now, this week, we have the opportunity to follow through by appropriating the necessary resources. The defense appropriations measure before us would support American military installations at home and abroad. My fellow Kentuckians and I are more than proud to host installations like Fort Campbell, Fort Knox, and the Blue Grass Army Depot. This legislation supports the important work that goes on at those facilities -- and the communities that revolve around them.

"Each of my colleagues, I'm sure, could offer similar reports of the resources directed to military operations in their states. But whether they're serving at sea or training with the 101st Airborne Division in Kentucky, our nation's men and women in uniform will receive some well-deserved benefits from the legislation we're considering today. That includes expanded access to on-base services for veterans. Billions in new funding for housing, support infrastructure, and child and health services. And the largest pay raise for our military personnel in nearly a decade.

"It's impossible to put a price on the sacrifices warfighters -- and their families -- make in service to our nation. But it is within our power to give them the support they deserve, on behalf of a grateful nation. And that's precisely what this legislation will do. I want to thank Sen. Shelby and Sen. Durbin, who led this bill through the subcommittee process. And I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bipartisan measure when the time comes to pass it."

## Kentucky Afield Outdoors: Excellent Habitat Conditions Should Make for a Productive Dove Season

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Aug. 16, 2018) – For the middle of August, much of Kentucky looks as green as late May. Corn is high and robust, pastures are green and streams run bank full. The lush conditions should translate into productive hunting when the dove season opens Sept. 1.

"Sunflowers look great overall," said Wes Little, migratory bird biologist for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. "We have a lot of doves in the population and good habitat conditions. People are sending me photos of awesome looking dove fields. I think it will be a good to great season."

Little also noted the Sept. 1 dove opener this year falls on a Saturday, which will bring more hunters into the field. "With many hunters in the field, the doves will be flying and available to hunters," he said. "It makes a difference."

Scouting a dove field before opening day increases the chances of success. "Scouting fields is important because some fields can be better than others," Little said. "Use the Public Dove Field Interactive Map to find dove fields in your area."

Users can find the interactive map on the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife homepage at [www.fw.ky.gov](http://www.fw.ky.gov). Click on the "Maps" tab, followed by the "Game Maps" tab, then "Public Dove Fields."

Those scouting leased private land dove fields may not enter them until 11 a.m. Sept. 1, but may scout from an adjacent roadway. Hunters scouting fields on wildlife management areas may enter the area to get a closer look at the field.

Hunters may also see written directions to public dove fields on the department's website by clicking on the "Hunt" tab, followed by "Game Species," then "Migratory Birds." This page contains the 2018 – 2019 Kentucky Hunting Guide for Dove and Early Waterfowl. This guide also covers hunting regulations for woodcock, snipe, rails, gallinules and crows. A printable PDF of this guide is available via a link on this page as there will no longer be a printed dove guide.

Scouting a dove field also gives hunters an idea about where to set up to hunt. "Shade is always quality real estate on a dove field," Little said. "I also look for cuts in lines of trees and bare, dead trees. Doves are attracted to dead trees. They like to roost in them."

Little said higher spots on the dove field lend hunters an advantage. "I like to be high to see the incoming birds," he said. "If you are in a low spot, the birds are on top of you before you can react to them."

Finding the best spot in the dove field can be for naught if you are ill prepared. "Practice situational shooting before the season starts as flying doves are very hard to hit," Little said. "The national average is over six shots per dove harvested."

Many dove hunters think the season is over after opening weekend, but those willing to adapt find good hunting throughout all three segments of the season.

"Public fields often come back a few weeks after opening day, you might find several hundred birds using them in late September and into October," Little said. "I would scout them after the initial rush to see if birds are still using them."

Little also likes to hunt farm ponds after opening weekend. "It is just like duck hunting," he said. "The farm ponds with some mud showing on the banks draw doves. They come to drink before and after roosting and they need super shallow water in order to drink. Set up some dove decoys when hunting these ponds, they make a tremendous difference."

Cut silage fields also make productive hunting places in the later season. "Harvested tobacco fields sown with a cover crop offer good later season opportunities as well," Little said.

Shotshells filled with No. 7 ½ shot perform from opening day to the late season. "I shoot 7 ½ loads all of the time," Little said. "I have full confidence with my 20-gauge and 7 ½ loads for any distance for doves."

Little reminds hunters to wear protective shooting eyewear when dove hunting or during shooting practice. "I don't go in the dove field without wearing them," he said.

Remember sunscreen and bring plenty of water, especially if you hunt with a dog. "It is often hot in the dove field," Little said. "Dogs and people can easily overheat in early September."

The first segment of the dove season runs through Oct. 26. The second segment opens Nov. 22 (Thanksgiving Day) and closes Dec. 2. The third segment opens Dec. 22, 2018 and closes Jan. 13, 2019.

Also as a reminder, hunters must complete a short survey and get their Harvest Information Program (H.I.P.) confirmation number before they are legal migratory bird hunters. Visit the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife homepage at [www.fw.ky.gov](http://www.fw.ky.gov) and click on the "My Profile" tab to begin. The process takes less than 5 minutes.

In addition to the H.I.P. confirmation number, hunters need a valid Kentucky hunting license as well as a Kentucky Migratory Bird – Waterfowl Hunting Permit to hunt doves legally.

## HERSHEL H. TAYLOR CANDIDATE FOR THE JACKSON COUNTY WATER ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS DISTRICT B

**IF YOU ARE A MEMBER OF THE JACKSON COUNTY WATER ASSOCIATION, DISTRICT B, I AM ASKING FOR YOUR VOTE FOR THE DISTRICT B SEAT ON THE JACKSON COUNTY WATER ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS.**

I am a U.S. Airforce Veteran who served in Vietnam. I have 40+ years in Utility Work and Management. I believe in honesty, integrity and in treating every individual fairly and equally.

### **If elected, I will work diligently to:**

1. Ensure that the Board does everything possible to provide all residents with safe water at the lowest possible cost.
2. Ensure that the water association is open and honest in all communications.
3. Ensure that proper processes and procedures are in place to provide fair and consistent treatment of all residents.

**Paid for by Hershell H. Taylor**