



**GROUP: NEW FCC POLICIES TO CURB BROADBAND**

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**New Federal Communication Commission policies are likely to slow U.S. broadband Internet deployment, the Washington-based Phoenix Center said Wednesday.**

**A study by the think tank shows the policies will allow incumbent phone companies to charge more for "loops," technology used for Internet access. If loop prices had been even \$1 higher during the last two years, some 3.6 million households would be unable to purchase broadband services today, the study said.**

**The study provides state-by-state projections of the effect of higher prices on broadband availability. It estimates the number of households with access to broadband would have fallen by about 417,000 for each \$1 increase in broadband prices.**

**On the other hand, every 10 percent decline in prices would have raised the number of zip codes with broadband access by 1 percent.**

**The Phoenix Center studies broad public-policy issues related to governance, social and economic conditions, with a particular emphasis on the law and economics of regulated industries.**