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Addressing Unidentified Drones Over Our

Communities

By Rep. Ann Flood

There has been ongoing concern about the unidentified drones spotted over New Jersey, New York, and eastern Pennsylvania, including the 138th District. In response to last week's sightings, I will be introducing a resolution urging the federal government to grant state and local governments the legal authority to take immediate action when unidentified drones pose a threat



to the safety and privacy of our communities.

Currently, federal regulations prevent state and local governments from responding swiftly and effectively to potential threats from unidentified drones. This is unacceptable.

Furthermore, the federal government should implement stronger response measures and public transparency measures when dealing with potential unidentified drone threats. The people of Pennsylvania deserve the assurance of immediate and effective action from state and local governments when unidentified drones endanger their communities.

Read more about the resolution herehttps://links.pahousenews.com/q/pE2YYvuv7N0Xn 9wRVvIxMr6fO0Q5NcA2puhZcOJYnZ0aW1lc0ByY24uY29tw4gHPeVzpfPfqL8LCmkd0Xoznxvykw

I have also written to FAA Administrator Michael Whitaker to express concerns about the lack of information on these incidents and to outline the need for this proposal.

If you observe any unidentified drone activity or have information about these sightings, please report it to the FBI by calling 1-800-CALL-FBI (1-800-225-5324) or submitting details and photos online at tips.fbi.gov.

Applications Open for Broadband Funding

By Rep. Ann Flood

The Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority (PBDA) recently announced the \$1.16 billion Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) Program will accept its first round of applications through Jan. 21. BEAD is a federal grant program that provides states with funding to deploy broadband infrastructure and connect residents to the internet.

The goal is to expand broadband in unserved and underserved areas of the state to make sure highspeed internet is available to every resident by the



end of the decade. It is estimated that over 100,000 Pennsylvanians in 42 counties currently have no service or struggle with poor service.

Eligible BEAD applicants include cooperative organizations; not-for-profit organizations; public-private partnerships; private companies; public or private utility companies; public utility districts; municipalities or units of local government; and internet service providers registered through the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

For more information about the program, how funding can be used and how to apply, click herehttps://links.pahousenews.com/q/i6Mdd9sEdb0XSIWTJg1ml1h4F2iWbM7emIOZcOJYnZ0aW1lc0ByY24uY29tw4gWnLBv6NlfJ4tL7batgW-NBV13xw.