

From: [Seldovia Public Library](#)
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#)
Subject: cutting OWL/E-rate funding from senate budget
Date: Saturday, March 28, 2015 10:00:39 AM

Hello! I just wanted to take a minute and tell you how important OWL/E-rate funding has been for the community of Seldovia and request that this funding please not be cut in the budget. Without the E-rate discounts we receive, we can not afford to pay for the greater broadband width and internet speed we are currently getting, which means we probably won't be able to do video conferencing programs anymore for our community. OWL/E-rate has resulted in 1) our library being opened more hours, 2) more patrons coming to our library (almost double), 3) more computer/wifi users (almost double), 4) a lot more programs for the community, 5) greater collaboration with our local school (teachers have started volunteering at the library and bringing their students down), and 6) community members valuing our library more. Outside of our library, there is only the Sea Otter Community Center that community members/visitors can go to access public internet and computers and they have really limited hours (even more so than the library). Thank you for considering my comments. Again, please don't cut OWL/E-rate funding.

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