

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Contact: Melia Carter**

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MAADD Supports Broadband Access for Florida's Seniors, Attends 2011 Ambassadors for the Aging Day

TALLAHASSEE, FL – This week the Ministerial Alliance Against the Digital Divide (MAADD), joined several other organizations at the 2011 Ambassadors for the Aging Day to highlight the vital role that broadband plays in the lives of seniors. Specifically, MAADD encouraged the passage of the 2011 Florida Regulatory Reform Act (SB 1524 and HB 1231) which would update Florida's outdated telecommunication's laws and benefit Florida's seniors by stimulating investment and innovation in broadband.

The large senior population in Florida makes broadband adoption for the elderly an important priority for the state. The Florida Regulatory Reform Act would increase investment in broadband technology which will provide senior citizens with access to online health resources, educational information, various financial benefits, and the ability to communicate with the rest of the world. These innovations have brought positive change to the everyday lives of seniors, particularly those in low income and minority communities.

“Broadband technology is life changing for all citizens, particularly the elderly. From applications in health care to having the ability to communicate with literally the world, broadband's possibilities for seniors are unmatched,” said Rev. Derrick McRae, President of the MAADD Florida Chapter. “It is for this reason that we must be sure that Florida continues to promote broadband adoption among seniors and create further incentives for state-of-the-art broadband investment throughout the state.”

The immense broadband investment that will come as a result of the passage of this legislation would provide opportunities for increased access to healthcare, education and jobs. For seniors, this can bring more enrichment in their golden years. For these and other reasons, MAADD supports the Florida Regulatory Reform Act as this legislation will bring broadband investment and countless opportunities to all citizens in the state of Florida.

The Ministerial Alliance Against the Digital Divide (MAADD) is a 70,000+ member, next-generation civil rights organization led by ministers devoted to bridging the Digital Divide and promoting economic and individual empowerment in low income and minority communities.