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FCC Mail Room

March 8, 2017

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C.
ATTN: Brian Hurley

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in support of Sandy Jones' nomination to the FCC's Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee (BDAC). BDAC will provide advice and recommendations to the FCC on how to accelerate the deployment of high-speed internet access. While the United States is making progress in broadband deployment, many Americans still lack access to high quality voice, data, graphics, and video services.

Access to broadband is a particularly challenging issue in New Mexico. New Mexico's large rural and Native American areas are in greatest need of broadband services because of their lower customer density and generally lower incomes. Countless families and students living, working, and learning in these areas still do not have access to reliable, high-speed internet services, which is an obstacle to economic development and improving education.

Nobody knows these issues better than Sandy Jones who has represented rural areas in southwestern New Mexico for 6 years at the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (PRC). He has taken the lead to expand the availability and reliability of broadband in rural New Mexico through the creation of a Broadband Fund, which will be used to facilitate investment in broadband infrastructure projects. He has dedicated much of his career to working with stakeholders and policy-makers to make broadband a reality for underserved New Mexicans.

As the current Chairman of the PRC and as someone who has years of experience living and working in rural areas of New Mexico, Sandy would be a great asset to the BDAC. I can think of nobody better who not only understands the challenges individuals without access to broadband face, but also knows what it will take to ensure that all Americans, regardless of where they live, have access to broadband.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact my
Legislative Director, Nathan Schelble, at 202-225-6316.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michelle Lujan Grisham". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Member of Congress