



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

April 3, 2017

The Honorable Dave Loebsack
U.S. House of Representatives
1527 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Loebsack:

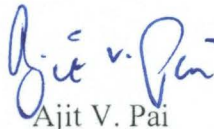
Thank you for your letter regarding my designation as Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission and your recognition for my commitment to close the digital divide and improve rural broadband access throughout the nation.

As you know, the small business exemption from the expanded reporting requirements in the *Title II Order* expired in December. That lapse left thousands of our nation's smallest and most competitive Internet service providers—mom-and-pop wireless Internet service providers (WISPs), small cable operators, municipal broadband providers, electric cooperatives, rural telephone companies, and others—worried that they would be subject to unnecessary, onerous, and ill-defined reporting obligations.

Like you, I believe that the Commission works best when it works on a bipartisan basis. That's why last year I reached across the aisle to work out a compromise, and why I modeled the *Small Business Reporting Exemption Order* on your Small Business Broadband Deployment Act of 2017—which received bipartisan support and passed the House by voice vote without objection earlier this year.¹ And that's why after I received your letter, I reached out to my colleague yet again to determine whether an alternative compromise would amenable to her. Unfortunately, my compromise proposal was rejected. Nonetheless, our action will help the nation's small Internet service providers better serve their communities, like the ones you mentioned in your home state.

I appreciate your interest and effort in this matter. I look forward to working with you on many important issues in my new role as Chairman. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,



Ajit V. Pai

¹ See Small Business Broadband Deployment Act, H.R. 4596, 114th Cong. § 2(d)(2) (2016); Small Business Broadband Deployment Act, S. 2283, 115th Cong. § 2(a)(4) (2017); Small Business Broadband Deployment Act, H.R. 288, 115th Cong. § 2(d)(2) (2017).