



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

April 26, 2017

The Honorable Anna G. Eshoo
U.S. House of Representatives
241 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Eshoo:

Thank you for your letter supporting the recent establishment of the Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee (BDAC). In your letter, you urge that the BDAC be tasked with a targeted goal of closing the digital divide in rural America.

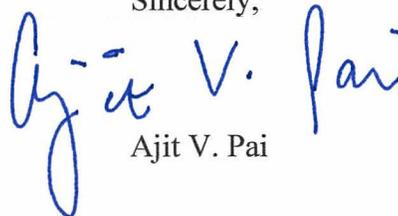
I share your desire to close the digital divide for the many rural Americans that lack sufficient high-speed internet access. I am focused on doing everything within the FCC's power to close the digital divide, as I said in my first remarks to the agency's terrific professional staff. The work of the BDAC will be a crucial component in our efforts to achieve this goal.

Last September, I proposed what I called a Digital Empowerment Agenda—a blueprint of policies that would accelerate the deployment of high-speed Internet access, or broadband, in communities across the country. The BDAC will provide an effective means for stakeholders to exchange ideas and develop recommendations to the Commission on broadband deployment. Its mission will be to identify regulatory barriers to infrastructure investment and make recommendations on reducing and/or removing them. This will enhance the Commission's ability to carry out its statutory responsibility to encourage broadband deployment to all Americans.

Additionally, the BDAC will draft for the Commission's consideration a model code for broadband deployment, which will cover topics like local franchising, zoning, permitting, and rights-of-way regulations. The model code will be a particularly valuable tool for rural communities that seek to access high-speed broadband but may lack the resources or the expertise to develop policies conducive to deployment. I expect the BDAC commence deliberations this spring.

I appreciate your interest in this matter and I look forward to working with you as we work to bridge the digital divide. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

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Ajit V. Pai



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April 26, 2017

The Honorable G.K. Butterfield
U.S. House of Representatives
2080 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Butterfield:

Thank you for your letter supporting the recent establishment of the Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee (BDAC). In your letter, you urge that the BDAC be tasked with a targeted goal of closing the digital divide in rural America.

I share your desire to close the digital divide for the many rural Americans that lack sufficient high-speed internet access. I am focused on doing everything within the FCC's power to close the digital divide, as I said in my first remarks to the agency's terrific professional staff. The work of the BDAC will be a crucial component in our efforts to achieve this goal.

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April 26, 2017

The Honorable Jerry McNerney
U.S. House of Representatives
2265 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman McNerney:

Thank you for your letter supporting the recent establishment of the Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee (BDAC). In your letter, you urge that the BDAC be tasked with a targeted goal of closing the digital divide in rural America.

I share your desire to close the digital divide for the many rural Americans that lack sufficient high-speed internet access. I am focused on doing everything within the FCC's power to close the digital divide, as I said in my first remarks to the agency's terrific professional staff. The work of the BDAC will be a crucial component in our efforts to achieve this goal.

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April 26, 2017

The Honorable Peter Welch
U.S. House of Representatives
2303 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Welch:

Thank you for your letter supporting the recent establishment of the Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee (BDAC). In your letter, you urge that the BDAC be tasked with a targeted goal of closing the digital divide in rural America.

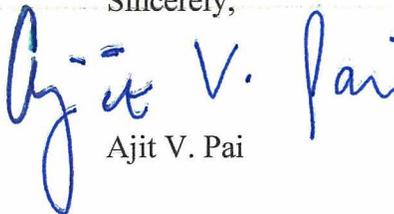
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April 26, 2017

The Honorable Doris Matsui
U.S. House of Representatives
2311 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Matsui:

Thank you for your letter supporting the recent establishment of the Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee (BDAC). In your letter, you urge that the BDAC be tasked with a targeted goal of closing the digital divide in rural America.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

April 26, 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 supporting the recent establishment of the Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee (BDAC). In your letter, you urge that the BDAC be tasked with a targeted goal of closing the digital divide in rural America.

I share your desire to close the digital divide for the many rural Americans that lack sufficient high-speed internet access. I am focused on doing everything within the FCC's power to close the digital divide, as I said in my first remarks to the agency's terrific professional staff. The work of the BDAC will be a crucial component in our efforts to achieve this goal.

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