

Media Contact:

Mark Wigfield, (202) 418-0253

mark.wigfield@fcc.gov

For Immediate Release

**CHAIRMAN PAI STATEMENT ON U.S. HOUSE INTRODUCTION OF
THE GIGABIT OPPORTUNITY ACT**

WASHINGTON, June 13, 2017 – Federal Communications Commission Chairman Ajit Pai issued the following statement today on introduction of H.R. 2870, the Gigabit Opportunity (GO) Act in the U.S. House of Representatives by Congressman Doug Collins of Georgia and originally co-sponsored by Congressman Jason Smith of Missouri. The companion bill in the Senate was introduced by Senator Shelley Moore Capito of West Virginia.

“I’m thrilled to see the effort to establish Gigabit Opportunity Zones continue to gain steam in the House of Representatives, thanks to Congressman Collins’ leadership in introducing the GO Act. This legislation, which complements legislation introduced last month by Senator Shelley Moore Capito, would create targeted tax incentives and streamline regulations in order to remove some of the barriers that hold back high-speed Internet access in too many communities.

“I’m thankful for Congressman Collins’ leadership on this issue. Having just traveled across five Midwestern and Northern Plains states, I can tell you that much of rural America is on the wrong side of the digital divide. Many urban areas are, too. Encouraging investment in economically disadvantaged communities can close that divide and benefit all Americans.”

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Office of Chairman Ajit Pai: (202) 418-2000

Twitter: @AjitPaiFCC

www.fcc.gov/leadership/ajit-pai

This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).