

United States Senate

November 29, 2017

1023

The Honorable Ajit Pai
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Rebecca Manna, nomination to serve on the Rural Health Care Committee, Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I would like to share my support for the nomination of Ms. Rebecca Manna to serve on the Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors Committee on Rural Health Care. Ms. Manna has demonstrated a deep understanding of rural health issues in her position with Kalispell Regional Healthcare (KRH) and has helped grow KRH into a regional and national example of preeminent rural and tele-health services.

Growing up in rural Kansas and having visited Montana, you know how important access to broadband, rural healthcare, and telemedicine is to our small communities. Decisions made at the USAC board should take into consideration the unique nature of states like Montana where the nearest hospital may be dozens, or possibly a hundred miles away. Further, it is important that USAC board members understand the difficulties of broadband deployment and access in states where the land is endless and the people are scarce. I believe that Ms. Manna understands these issues and will be a valuable asset to the Rural Health Care Committee.

Thank you for your consideration of Ms. Manna's nomination. If you have any further questions regarding her abilities or experience, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,



STEVE DAINES
United States Senator

CC: Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission