



OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

June 15, 2018

The Honorable Heidi Heitkamp  
United States Senate  
110 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Heitkamp:

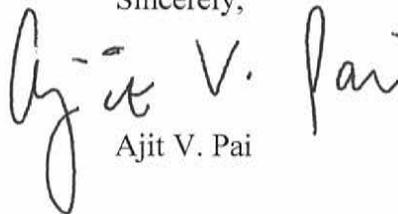
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That's why I have circulated a draft Report and Order to my colleagues that would take immediate action to increase funding for rural hospitals and health clinics by 43%, or \$171 million per year. This significant increase—alongside future inflation adjustments and a mechanism to carry forward unused funding from previous years—will ensure that rural health care providers get the connectivity they need to better serve patients for years to come. I hope that my colleagues will support this order soon.

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I appreciate your continued interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

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Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

June 15, 2018

The Honorable Mazie K. Hirono  
United States Senate  
330 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Hirono:

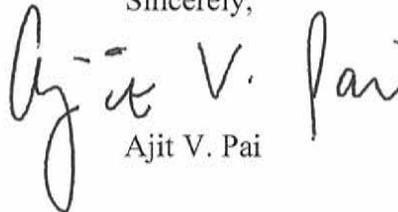
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

June 15, 2018

The Honorable Bob Casey  
United States Senate  
393 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Casey:

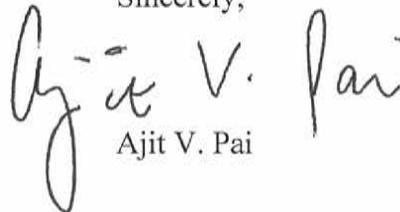
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

June 15, 2018

The Honorable Sherrod Brown  
United States Senate  
713 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Brown:

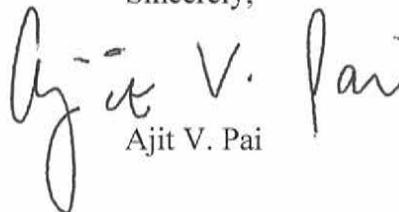
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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OFFICE OF  
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June 15, 2018

The Honorable Angus King  
United States Senate  
133 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator King:

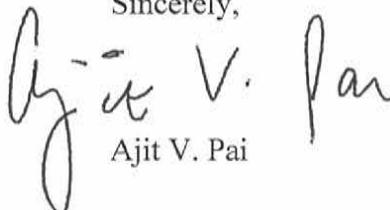
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

June 15, 2018

The Honorable Tina Smith  
United States Senate  
309 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Smith:

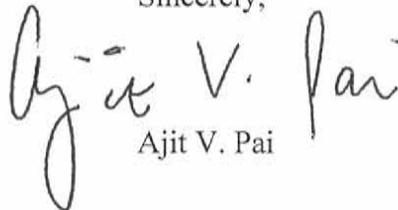
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

June 15, 2018

The Honorable Michael Bennet  
United States Senate  
261 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Bennet:

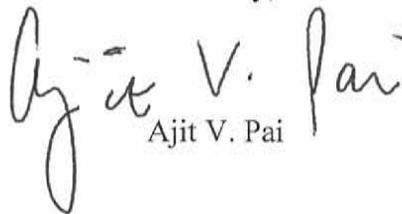
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

June 15, 2018

The Honorable John Hoeven  
United States Senate  
338 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Hoeven:

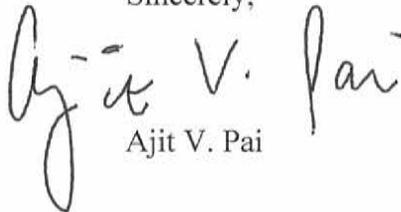
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

June 15, 2018

The Honorable Dan Sullivan  
United States Senate  
702 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Sullivan:

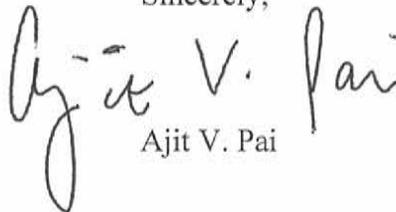
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

June 15, 2018

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski  
United States Senate  
709 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Murkowski:

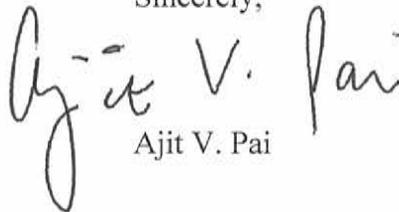
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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June 15, 2018

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito  
United States Senate  
172 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Capito:

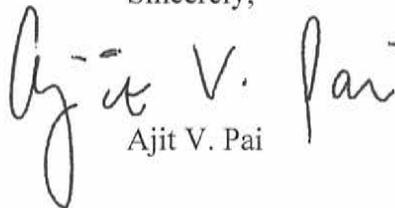
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Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

June 15, 2018

The Honorable Susan Collins  
United States Senate  
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

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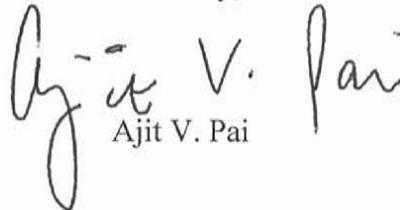
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OFFICE OF  
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June 15, 2018

The Honorable Roy Blunt  
United States Senate  
260 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Blunt:

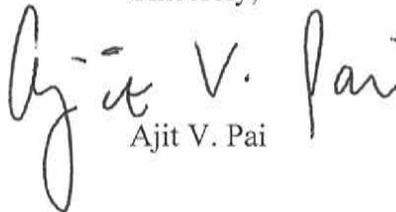
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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THE CHAIRMAN

June 15, 2018

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin  
United States Senate  
717 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Baldwin:

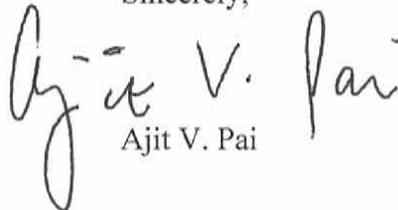
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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OFFICE OF  
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June 15, 2018

The Honorable Claire McCaskill  
United States Senate  
730 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator McCaskill:

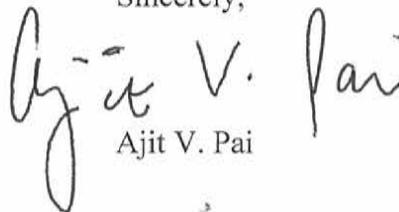
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OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

June 15, 2018

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper  
United States Senate  
513 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Carper:

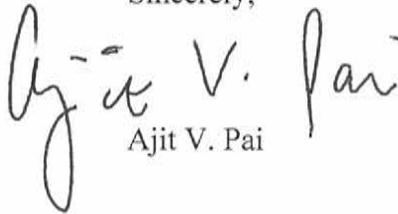
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I appreciate your continued interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

  
Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

June 15, 2018

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen  
United States Senate  
506 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Shaheen:

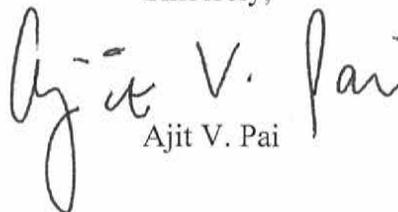
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Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

June 15, 2018

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senate  
302 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Klobuchar:

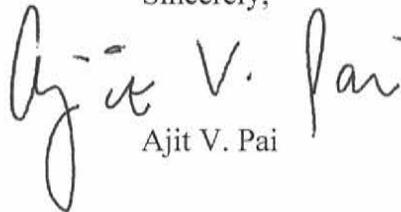
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

June 15, 2018

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow  
United States Senate  
731 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Stabenow:

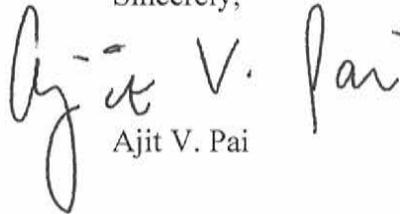
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

June 15, 2018

The Honorable Gary Peters  
United States Senate  
724 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Peters:

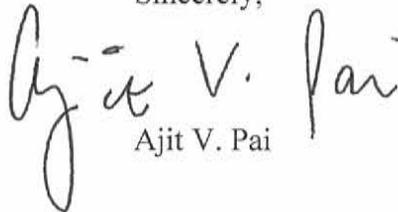
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

June 15, 2018

The Honorable Martin Heinrich  
United States Senate  
303 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Heinrich:

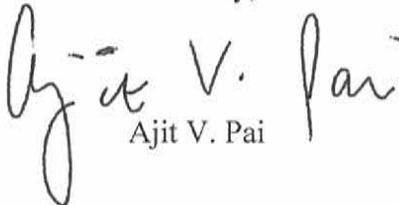
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Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

June 15, 2018

The Honorable Chris Van Hollen  
United States Senate  
B40C Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Van Hollen:

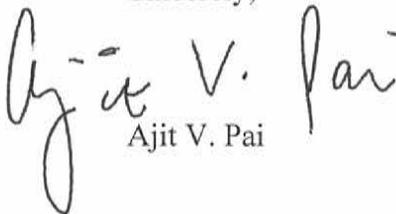
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

June 15, 2018

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
United States Senate  
437 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Leahy:

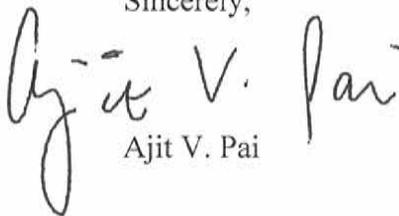
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

June 15, 2018

The Honorable Jon Tester  
United States Senate  
311 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Tester:

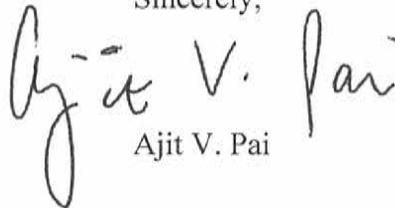
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

June 15, 2018

The Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand  
United States Senate  
478 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Gillibrand:

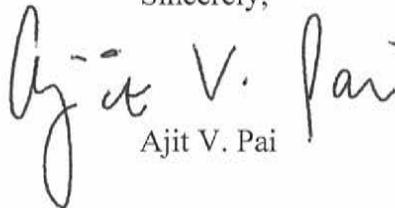
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OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

June 15, 2018

The Honorable Maggie Hassan  
United States Senate  
B85 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Hassan:

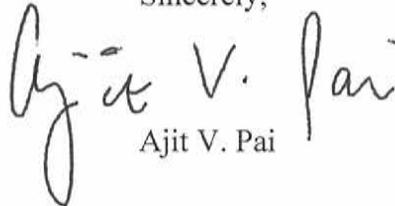
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
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June 15, 2018

The Honorable Benjamin L. Cardin  
United States Senate  
509 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

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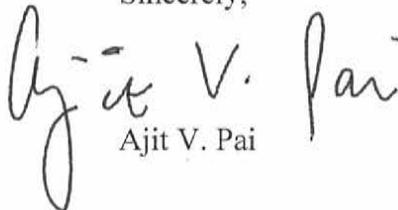
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
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June 15, 2018

The Honorable Tom Udall  
United States Senate  
531 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

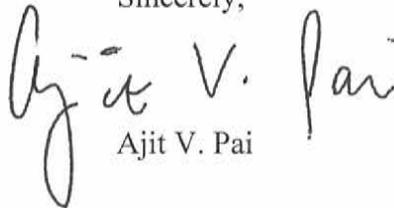
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

June 15, 2018

The Honorable Doug Jones  
United States Senate  
326 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Jones:

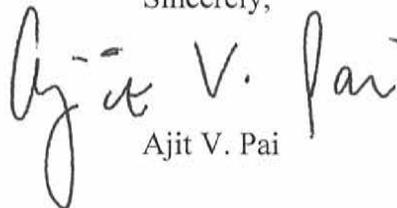
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

June 15, 2018

The Honorable Joe Donnelly  
United States Senate  
720 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Donnelly:

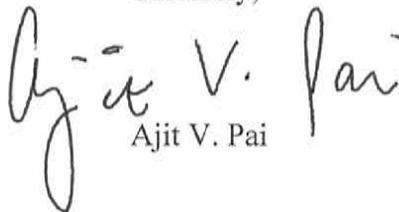
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

June 15, 2018

The Honorable Catherine Cortez Masto  
United States Senate  
B40A Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cortez Masto:

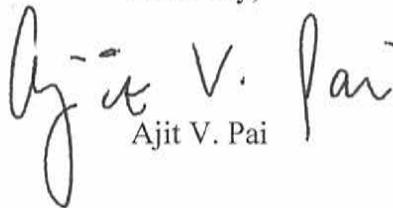
Thank you for your letter expressing support for the Federal Communications Commission's efforts to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America. As the son of two doctors in rural Kansas, I understand the critical role that broadband plays in providing patients in rural areas with high-quality health care services. And as Chairman, I've seen the potential of telemedicine firsthand, from a Veterans Affairs facility in rural Lecanto, Florida to Augusta Health in relatively rural Staunton, Virginia.

That's why I have circulated a draft Report and Order to my colleagues that would take immediate action to increase funding for rural hospitals and health clinics by 43%, or \$171 million per year. This significant increase—alongside future inflation adjustments and a mechanism to carry forward unused funding from previous years—will ensure that rural health care providers get the connectivity they need to better serve patients for years to come. I hope that my colleagues will support this order soon.

In addition, we must always ensure that scarce federal funds are being well spent. That's why Commission staff are taking a hard look at eliminating any waste, fraud, and abuse within the RHC program. After all, every dollar misspent by an unscrupulous service provider is a dollar that can't offset the costs that doctors and nurses incur serving some of the most vulnerable patients in America. I look forward to working with my colleagues to continue these efforts later this year.

I appreciate your continued interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ajit V. Pai". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "A".  
Ajit V. Pai