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February 7, 2018

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

Dear Chairman Pai,

Advanced communications services are improving the quality and affordability of health care in rural communities throughout the United States. Through innovative telemedicine applications, rural Americans can access specialized health-care services that have traditionally been unavailable or prohibitively expensive in these areas. Because of my state's leadership in telemedicine, Mississippians have seen firsthand how this technology is increasing the overall quality of care, improving patient outcomes, reducing costs, and most importantly, saving lives.

As efforts to deploy broadband to underserved and unserved areas continue, increased connectivity is opening the door for health-care providers to offer new health-care services in innovative ways. Wireless Medical Telemetry Service (WMTS) is one way in which health-care providers can better serve patients in rural areas. Using radio spectrum, WMTS allows doctors and nurses to monitor critical care patients remotely through sensors that send real-time updates about a patient's condition to a hospital or clinic.

The benefits of this technology are significant. WMTS has helped increase survival rates among patients by assisting clinicians' efforts to address health conditions before they worsen. Moreover, WMTS provides patients with more mobility and allows doctors and nurses to monitor multiple patients at one time, increasing the overall efficiency of medical care. The availability of this technology in rural areas is particularly important in Mississippi, given our shortage of doctors and the significant distances that many residents must travel to receive care.

TerreStar Corporation's WMTS proposal promises to provide access to many innovative medical services for small rural health facilities. It has committed to servicing 2,000 hospitals in the U.S. by 2020 using this life-saving technology. This will help rural Mississippians and thousands of other rural Americans receive unprecedented access to essential health-care services.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of TerreStar's WMTS proposal in WT Docket No. 16-290 to provide critical health-care services in rural areas and for your unwavering support and commitment to rural America.

Sincerely,



Roger F. Wicker  
United States Senator