



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

May 14, 2019

The Honorable Abby Finkenauer
U.S. House of Representatives
124 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Finkenauer:

Thank you for your letter regarding access to broadband for small businesses, especially in rural America. I share your view that high-speed Internet access is critical to economic opportunity, job creation, education, and civic engagement. That's why we encouraged carriers to replace aging copper with fiber on an expedited basis, increased federal support for our rural healthcare program and for small, rural carriers serving high-cost areas, and held our nation's first reverse auction for fixed broadband support, among other things. The results of these actions will be felt throughout America, and especially in rural America, where the case to build out broadband is already challenging for most businesses.

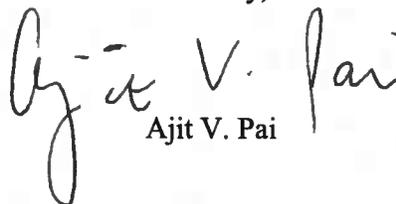
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I also agree with you that unlicensed spectrum in the TV white spaces—those channels on which no broadcaster is broadcasting—promises an opportunity for new wireless broadband deployments. And I am encouraged that after the Commission's recent action in the docket (namely, a March Report and Order and Order on Reconsideration resolving a number of outstanding issues), Microsoft has engaged with the broadcast community to seek a new rulemaking on further steps we can take to improve the use of this spectrum.

Page 2—The Honorable Abby Finkenaer

Please let me know if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

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Ajit V. Pai



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

May 14, 2019

The Honorable Adriano Espaillat
U.S. House of Representatives
1630 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Espaillat:

Thank you for your letter regarding access to broadband for small businesses, especially in rural America. I share your view that high-speed Internet access is critical to economic opportunity, job creation, education, and civic engagement. That's why we encouraged carriers to replace aging copper with fiber on an expedited basis, increased federal support for our rural healthcare program and for small, rural carriers serving high-cost areas, and held our nation's first reverse auction for fixed broadband support, among other things. The results of these actions will be felt throughout America, and especially in rural America, where the case to build out broadband is already challenging for most businesses.

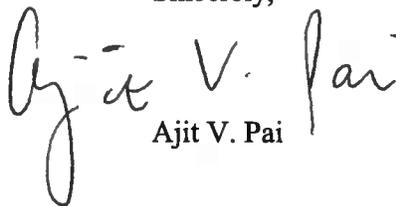
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Page 2—The Honorable Adriano Espaillat

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Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

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THE CHAIRMAN

May 14, 2019

The Honorable Andy Kim
U.S. House of Representatives
1516 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Kim:

Thank you for your letter regarding access to broadband for small businesses, especially in rural America. I share your view that high-speed Internet access is critical to economic opportunity, job creation, education, and civic engagement. That's why we encouraged carriers to replace aging copper with fiber on an expedited basis, increased federal support for our rural healthcare program and for small, rural carriers serving high-cost areas, and held our nation's first reverse auction for fixed broadband support, among other things. The results of these actions will be felt throughout America, and especially in rural America, where the case to build out broadband is already challenging for most businesses.

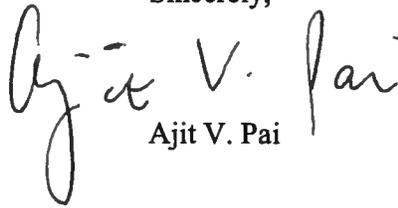
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Ajit V. Pai



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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

May 14, 2019

The Honorable Brad Schneider
U.S. House of Representatives
1432 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Schneider:

Thank you for your letter regarding access to broadband for small businesses, especially in rural America. I share your view that high-speed Internet access is critical to economic opportunity, job creation, education, and civic engagement. That's why we encouraged carriers to replace aging copper with fiber on an expedited basis, increased federal support for our rural healthcare program and for small, rural carriers serving high-cost areas, and held our nation's first reverse auction for fixed broadband support, among other things. The results of these actions will be felt throughout America, and especially in rural America, where the case to build out broadband is already challenging for most businesses.

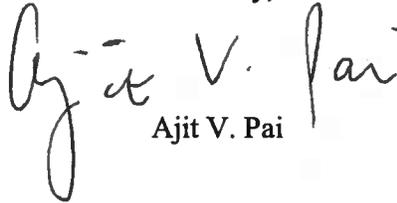
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Page 2—The Honorable Brad Schneider

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Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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OFFICE OF
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May 14, 2019

The Honorable Jared Golden
U.S. House of Representatives
1223 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Golden:

Thank you for your letter regarding access to broadband for small businesses, especially in rural America. I share your view that high-speed Internet access is critical to economic opportunity, job creation, education, and civic engagement. That's why we encouraged carriers to replace aging copper with fiber on an expedited basis, increased federal support for our rural healthcare program and for small, rural carriers serving high-cost areas, and held our nation's first reverse auction for fixed broadband support, among other things. The results of these actions will be felt throughout America, and especially in rural America, where the case to build out broadband is already challenging for most businesses.

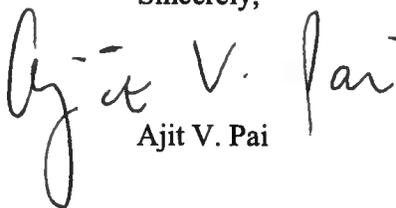
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Page 2—The Honorable Jared Golden

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Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

May 14, 2019

The Honorable Jason Crow
U.S. House of Representatives
1229 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Crow:

Thank you for your letter regarding access to broadband for small businesses, especially in rural America. I share your view that high-speed Internet access is critical to economic opportunity, job creation, education, and civic engagement. That's why we encouraged carriers to replace aging copper with fiber on an expedited basis, increased federal support for our rural healthcare program and for small, rural carriers serving high-cost areas, and held our nation's first reverse auction for fixed broadband support, among other things. The results of these actions will be felt throughout America, and especially in rural America, where the case to build out broadband is already challenging for most businesses.

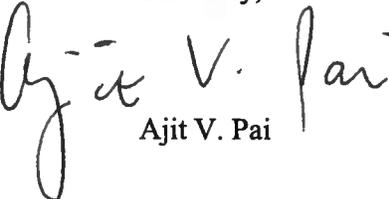
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Page 2—The Honorable Jason Crow

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Sincerely,


Ajit V. Pai



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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

May 14, 2019

The Honorable John Joyce
U.S. House of Representatives
1337 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Joyce:

Thank you for your letter regarding access to broadband for small businesses, especially in rural America. I share your view that high-speed Internet access is critical to economic opportunity, job creation, education, and civic engagement. That's why we encouraged carriers to replace aging copper with fiber on an expedited basis, increased federal support for our rural healthcare program and for small, rural carriers serving high-cost areas, and held our nation's first reverse auction for fixed broadband support, among other things. The results of these actions will be felt throughout America, and especially in rural America, where the case to build out broadband is already challenging for most businesses.

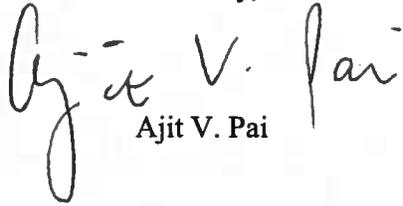
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Page 2—The Honorable John Joyce

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Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

May 14, 2019

The Honorable Marc Veasey
U.S. House of Representatives
1519 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Veasey:

Thank you for your letter regarding access to broadband for small businesses, especially in rural America. I share your view that high-speed Internet access is critical to economic opportunity, job creation, education, and civic engagement. That's why we encouraged carriers to replace aging copper with fiber on an expedited basis, increased federal support for our rural healthcare program and for small, rural carriers serving high-cost areas, and held our nation's first reverse auction for fixed broadband support, among other things. The results of these actions will be felt throughout America, and especially in rural America, where the case to build out broadband is already challenging for most businesses.

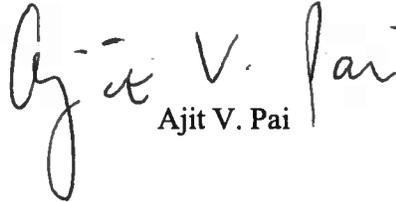
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Page 2—The Honorable Marc Veasey

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Ajit V. Pai



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

May 14, 2019

The Honorable Nydia M. Velazquez
Chairwoman
Committee on Small Business
U.S. House of Representatives
2361 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Velazquez:

Thank you for your letter regarding access to broadband for small businesses, especially in rural America. I share your view that high-speed Internet access is critical to economic opportunity, job creation, education, and civic engagement. That's why we encouraged carriers to replace aging copper with fiber on an expedited basis, increased federal support for our rural healthcare program and for small, rural carriers serving high-cost areas, and held our nation's first reverse auction for fixed broadband support, among other things. The results of these actions will be felt throughout America, and especially in rural America, where the case to build out broadband is already challenging for most businesses.

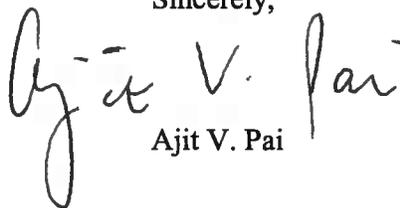
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Page 2—The Honorable Nydia M. Velazquez

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Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

May 14, 2019

The Honorable Pete Stauber
U.S. House of Representatives
126 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Stauber:

Thank you for your letter regarding access to broadband for small businesses, especially in rural America. I share your view that high-speed Internet access is critical to economic opportunity, job creation, education, and civic engagement. That's why we encouraged carriers to replace aging copper with fiber on an expedited basis, increased federal support for our rural healthcare program and for small, rural carriers serving high-cost areas, and held our nation's first reverse auction for fixed broadband support, among other things. The results of these actions will be felt throughout America, and especially in rural America, where the case to build out broadband is already challenging for most businesses.

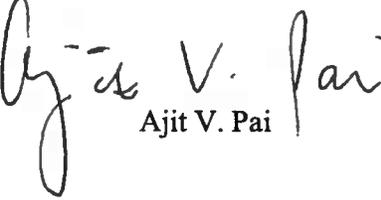
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Page 2—The Honorable Pete Stauber

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May 14, 2019

The Honorable Ross Spano
U.S. House of Representatives
224 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Spano:

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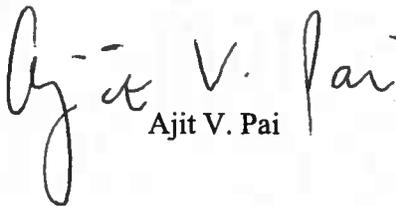
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Page 2—The Honorable Ross Spano

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Ajit V. Pai



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May 14, 2019

The Honorable Sharice Davids
U.S. House of Representatives
1541 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Davids:

Thank you for your letter regarding access to broadband for small businesses, especially in rural America. I share your view that high-speed Internet access is critical to economic opportunity, job creation, education, and civic engagement. That's why we encouraged carriers to replace aging copper with fiber on an expedited basis, increased federal support for our rural healthcare program and for small, rural carriers serving high-cost areas, and held our nation's first reverse auction for fixed broadband support, among other things. The results of these actions will be felt throughout America, and especially in rural America, where the case to build out broadband is already challenging for most businesses.

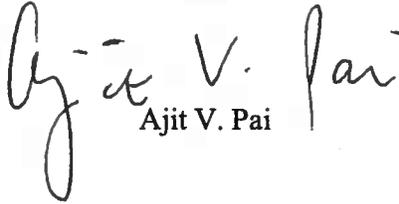
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The Honorable Steve Chabot
Ranking Member
Committee on Small Business
U.S. House of Representatives
B343-C Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Chabot:

Thank you for your letter regarding access to broadband for small businesses, especially in rural America. I share your view that high-speed Internet access is critical to economic opportunity, job creation, education, and civic engagement. That's why we encouraged carriers to replace aging copper with fiber on an expedited basis, increased federal support for our rural healthcare program and for small, rural carriers serving high-cost areas, and held our nation's first reverse auction for fixed broadband support, among other things. The results of these actions will be felt throughout America, and especially in rural America, where the case to build out broadband is already challenging for most businesses.

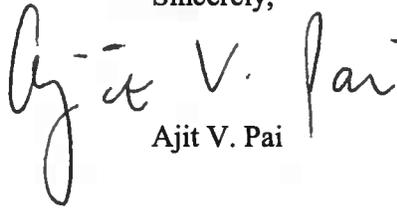
Additionally, I agree that maintaining updated and accurate broadband deployment data is critical to bridging the digital divide. We need to understand where broadband is available and where it is not in order to target our efforts and limited funding to areas that are most in need. Accordingly, in an August 2017 Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, the Commission began to take a focused look at reforming the FCC Form 477 process—the principal tool used by the Commission to gather data on communications services, including broadband services. We wanted to explore revising aspects of the data collection to increase its usefulness to the Commission, Congress, the industry, and the public. We continue to look into ways to collect and use accurate data from any source, including consumers themselves, to assemble a reliable map. As you may know, the Commission's Speed Test App is one way consumers can participate in collecting data about broadband deployment, and our staff are examining if it could be leveraged to better understand wireless broadband network performance.

I also agree with you that unlicensed spectrum in the TV white spaces—those channels on which no broadcaster is broadcasting—promises an opportunity for new wireless broadband deployments. And I am encouraged that after the Commission's recent action in the docket (namely, a March Report and Order and Order on Reconsideration resolving a number of outstanding issues), Microsoft has engaged with the broadcast community to seek a new rulemaking on further steps we can take to improve the use of this spectrum.

Page 2—The Honorable Steve Chabot

Please let me know if I may be of 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 initial "A" and a long tail on the "i".

Ajit V. Pai



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

May 14, 2019

The Honorable Tim Burchett
U.S. House of Representatives
1122 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Burchett:

Thank you for your letter regarding access to broadband for small businesses, especially in rural America. I share your view that high-speed Internet access is critical to economic opportunity, job creation, education, and civic engagement. That's why we encouraged carriers to replace aging copper with fiber on an expedited basis, increased federal support for our rural healthcare program and for small, rural carriers serving high-cost areas, and held our nation's first reverse auction for fixed broadband support, among other things. The results of these actions will be felt throughout America, and especially in rural America, where the case to build out broadband is already challenging for most businesses.

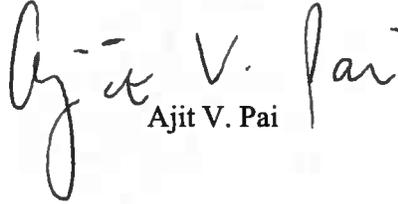
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Page 2—The Honorable Tim Burchett

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Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

May 14, 2019

The Honorable Troy Balderson
U.S. House of Representatives
1221 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Balderson:

Thank you for your letter regarding access to broadband for small businesses, especially in rural America. I share your view that high-speed Internet access is critical to economic opportunity, job creation, education, and civic engagement. That's why we encouraged carriers to replace aging copper with fiber on an expedited basis, increased federal support for our rural healthcare program and for small, rural carriers serving high-cost areas, and held our nation's first reverse auction for fixed broadband support, among other things. The results of these actions will be felt throughout America, and especially in rural America, where the case to build out broadband is already challenging for most businesses.

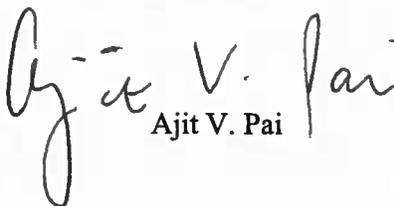
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Page 2—The Honorable Troy Balderson

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Ajit V. Pai