



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 14, 2019

The Honorable Ron Wyden
United States Senate
221 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Wyden:

Thank you for your follow-up letter regarding the Commission's implementation of the National Suicide Hotline Improvement Act of 2018. As you know, the Act directs the FCC to coordinate with the Department of Health and Human Services' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), and the North American Numbering Council (NANC) in conducting a study examining the feasibility of designating a simple, easy-to-remember, three digit dialing code to be used for a national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system. The Act also requires us to produce a report recommending whether a simple, easy-to-remember, three-digit dialing code should be used for a national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system and, if so, the logistics and costs associated with designating such a dialing code, among other issues.

The Commission's Wireline Competition Bureau issued a Public Notice seeking input from interested stakeholders on the issues that the Commission must address in the study and the report required by the statute. In accordance with the statute, the Commission is also working closely with the SAMHSA, the VA, and the NANC as we carefully examine this important issue. SAMHSA and the VA conducted studies and provided reports to the Commission in February, and the NANC submitted its report in May.

Commission staff is reviewing these reports as well as comments filed by interested parties in the docket. The FCC will submit its report to Congress by the statutory deadline of August 14, 2019. Before implementing any recommendations from the report, the Commission would seek public input through a notice and comment proceeding. Interested parties would be invited to fully participate in that proceeding.

Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ajit V. Pai".

Ajit V. Pai