

ROBERT E. LATTA

5TH DISTRICT, OHIO

DEPUTY WHIP

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY
REPUBLICAN LEADER

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY

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PROTECTION AND COMMERCE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3505

July 19, 2019

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

Dear Chairman Pai,

It has come to my attention that Todd Harpest, External Affairs and Regulatory Director at MetaLINK Technologies in Defiance, Ohio, has been nominated to serve on the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Task Force for Reviewing Connectivity and Technology Needs of Precision Agriculture in the United States. As the author of the legislation that created this vital Task Force, I am writing to request that you give him full and fair consideration.

If granted a position on the Task Force, Mr. Harpest would bring to the discussion his extensive experience with a rural wireless Internet service provider and expertise in broadband network data collection and coverage mapping. The nominee understands the barriers to deploying on rural farmlands by overcoming challenges to provide broadband connectivity to regional agricultural producers. Also, through his customers, he knows how valuable precision agriculture capabilities are in a farming operation.

I believe Mr. Harpest's knowledge and experience will offer a unique perspective in addressing the digital divide and will help to successfully achieve the mission of the Task Force. Thank you for considering his nomination.

Sincerely,



Robert E. Latta
Member of Congress