

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington

December 2, 2019

The Honorable Pete Olson U.S. House of Representatives 2133 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Olson:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Federal Communications Commission's E-Rate program. An effective and efficient E-Rate program—one that promotes better connectivity for students and library patrons alike—can be a powerful tool to help bridge the digital divide.

With respect to the concern you expressed regarding overbuilding, several Texas carriers filed a petition for rulemaking urging the Commission to prohibit the use of E-Rate funds for special construction of fiber networks that overbuild existing fiber networks. The Commission's Wireline Competition Bureau sought comment on this petition, and the comment cycle recently closed. Commission staff is now carefully reviewing the record.

In addition, I want to note that the FCC is seeking to create a Digital Opportunity Data Collection in order to generate more granular and more accurate broadband maps. As part of this effort, we sought comment on how the maps and datasets can be used to avoid duplicative funding in the E-Rate program. I can assure you that we will take into consideration the issues and concerns presented by stakeholders in each in these proceedings.

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



December 2, 2019

The Honorable Bill Flores U.S. House of Representatives 2440 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Flores:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Federal Communications Commission's E-Rate program. An effective and efficient E-Rate program—one that promotes better connectivity for students and library patrons alike—can be a powerful tool to help bridge the digital divide.

With respect to the concern you expressed regarding overbuilding, several Texas carriers filed a petition for rulemaking urging the Commission to prohibit the use of E-Rate funds for special construction of fiber networks that overbuild existing fiber networks. The Commission's Wireline Competition Bureau sought comment on this petition, and the comment cycle recently closed. Commission staff is now carefully reviewing the record.

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Sincerely,



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December 2, 2019

The Honorable Jodey Cook Arrington U.S. House of Representatives 1029 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Arrington:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Federal Communications Commission's E-Rate program. An effective and efficient E-Rate program—one that promotes better connectivity for students and library patrons alike—can be a powerful tool to help bridge the digital divide.

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December 2, 2019

The Honorable Kevin Brady U.S. House of Representatives 1011 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Brady:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Federal Communications Commission's E-Rate program. An effective and efficient E-Rate program—one that promotes better connectivity for students and library patrons alike—can be a powerful tool to help bridge the digital divide.

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December 2, 2019

The Honorable Lance Gooden U.S. House of Representatives 425 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Gooden:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Federal Communications Commission's E-Rate program. An effective and efficient E-Rate program—one that promotes better connectivity for students and library patrons alike—can be a powerful tool to help bridge the digital divide.

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December 2, 2019

The Honorable Louie Gohmert U.S. House of Representatives 2243 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Gohmert:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Federal Communications Commission's E-Rate program. An effective and efficient E-Rate program—one that promotes better connectivity for students and library patrons alike—can be a powerful tool to help bridge the digital divide.

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December 2, 2019

The Honorable Michael Conaway U.S. House of Representatives 2430 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Conaway:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Federal Communications Commission's E-Rate program. An effective and efficient E-Rate program—one that promotes better connectivity for students and library patrons alike—can be a powerful tool to help bridge the digital divide.

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The Honorable Roger Williams U.S. House of Representatives 1323 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Williams:

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December 2, 2019

The Honorable Ron Wright U.S. House of Representatives 428 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Wright:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Federal Communications Commission's E-Rate program. An effective and efficient E-Rate program—one that promotes better connectivity for students and library patrons alike—can be a powerful tool to help bridge the digital divide.

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