



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

December 3, 2019

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

Dear Congressman Flores:

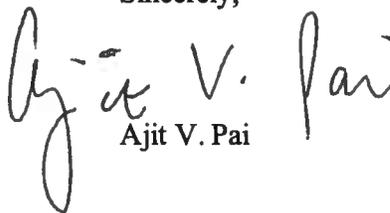
Thank you for your letter regarding the Federal Communications Commission's E-Rate program. I agree that an effective and efficient E-Rate program—one that promotes better connectivity for students and library patrons alike—can be a powerful tool to help bridge the digital divide.

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 has 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 of these proceedings.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Your views are very important and will be entered into the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

  
Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

December 3, 2019

The Honorable Greg Gianforte  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1222 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Gianforte:

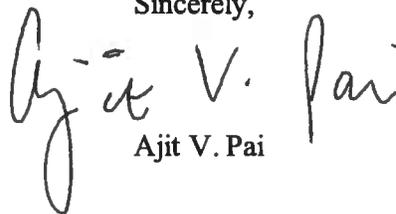
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Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

December 3, 2019

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

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

Dear Congressman Olson:

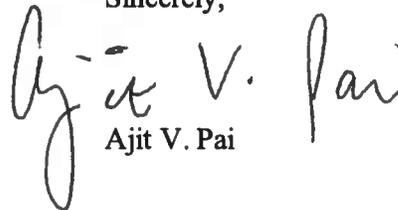
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