



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

December 2, 2019

The Honorable Ron Kind
U.S. House of Representatives
1502 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

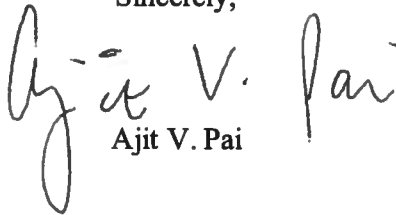
Dear Congressman Kind:

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposal to establish a cap on the Universal Service Fund (USF or Fund), which could enable the Commission to evaluate the overall financial health of the Fund and its four component programs more comprehensively.

In May, the Commission released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) seeking comment on possible changes to the budget structures of the four universal service programs, and to promote efficiency, fairness, and sustainability. We initiated this proceeding mindful of our obligation to safeguard the USF funds ultimately paid by consumers, and to ensure that these important programs are funded appropriately. Each of the USF programs is currently capped or operating under a targeted budget, and an overall cap could help limit the overall contributions burden, provide regulatory and financial certainty to both recipients of and contributors to these important programs, and simply promote good government. Additionally, and notably, the NPRM seeks comment on a proposed overall annual budget of \$11.42 billion, a figure more than *\$3 billion* greater than current USF program disbursements and one that would be adjusted for inflation.

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 2, 2019

The Honorable Angie Craig
U.S. House of Representatives
1523 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

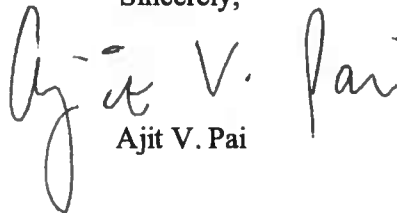
Dear Congresswoman Craig:

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposal to establish a cap on the Universal Service Fund (USF or Fund), which could enable the Commission to evaluate the overall financial health of the Fund and its four component programs more comprehensively.

In May, the Commission released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) seeking comment on possible changes to the budget structures of the four universal service programs, and to promote efficiency, fairness, and sustainability. We initiated this proceeding mindful of our obligation to safeguard the USF funds ultimately paid by consumers, and to ensure that these important programs are funded appropriately. Each of the USF programs is currently capped or operating under a targeted budget, and an overall cap could help limit the overall contributions burden, provide regulatory and financial certainty to both recipients of and contributors to these important programs, and simply promote good government. Additionally, and notably, the NPRM seeks comment on a proposed overall annual budget of \$11.42 billion, a figure more than *\$3 billion* greater than current USF program disbursements and one that would be adjusted for inflation.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Ajit V. Pai". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ajit" and last name "Pai" being more prominent than the middle initial "V".
Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

December 2, 2019

The Honorable Ann Kirkpatrick
U.S. House of Representatives
309 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

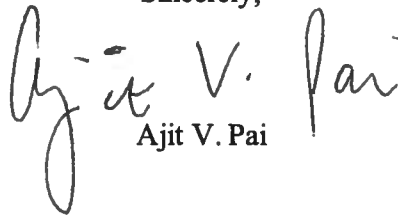
Dear Congresswoman Kirkpatrick:

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposal to establish a cap on the Universal Service Fund (USF or Fund), which could enable the Commission to evaluate the overall financial health of the Fund and its four component programs more comprehensively.

In May, the Commission released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) seeking comment on possible changes to the budget structures of the four universal service programs, and to promote efficiency, fairness, and sustainability. We initiated this proceeding mindful of our obligation to safeguard the USF funds ultimately paid by consumers, and to ensure that these important programs are funded appropriately. Each of the USF programs is currently capped or operating under a targeted budget, and an overall cap could help limit the overall contributions burden, provide regulatory and financial certainty to both recipients of and contributors to these important programs, and simply promote good government. Additionally, and notably, the NPRM seeks comment on a proposed overall annual budget of \$11.42 billion, a figure more than *\$3 billion* greater than current USF program disbursements and one that would be adjusted for inflation.

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Sincerely,


Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

December 2, 2019

The Honorable Cheri Bustos
U.S. House of Representatives
1009 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

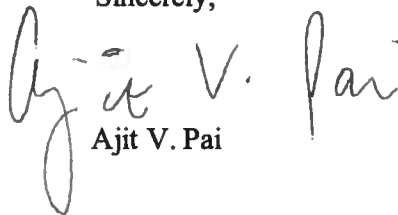
Dear Congresswoman Bustos:

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposal to establish a cap on the Universal Service Fund (USF or Fund), which could enable the Commission to evaluate the overall financial health of the Fund and its four component programs more comprehensively.

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Sincerely,


Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

December 2, 2019

The Honorable Cindy Axne
U.S. House of Representatives
330 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

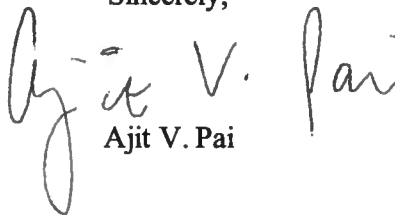
Dear Congresswoman Axne:

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposal to establish a cap on the Universal Service Fund (USF or Fund), which could enable the Commission to evaluate the overall financial health of the Fund and its four component programs more comprehensively.

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Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

December 2, 2019

The Honorable G.K. Butterfield
U.S. House of Representatives
2080 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

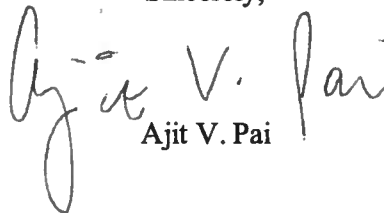
Dear Congressman Butterfield:

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposal to establish a cap on the Universal Service Fund (USF or Fund), which could enable the Commission to evaluate the overall financial health of the Fund and its four component programs more comprehensively.

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Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

December 2, 2019

The Honorable James E. Clyburn
U.S. House of Representatives
242 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

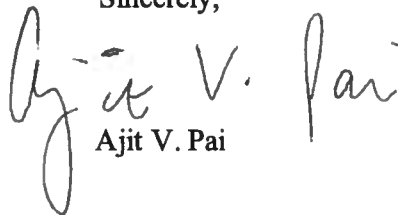
Dear Congressman Clyburn:

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposal to establish a cap on the Universal Service Fund (USF or Fund), which could enable the Commission to evaluate the overall financial health of the Fund and its four component programs more comprehensively.

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Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

December 2, 2019

The Honorable Jim McGovern
U.S. House of Representatives
408 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman McGovern:

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposal to establish a cap on the Universal Service Fund (USF or Fund), which could enable the Commission to evaluate the overall financial health of the Fund and its four component programs more comprehensively.

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Sincerely,

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Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

December 2, 2019

The Honorable Mark Pocan
U.S. House of Representatives
1421 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

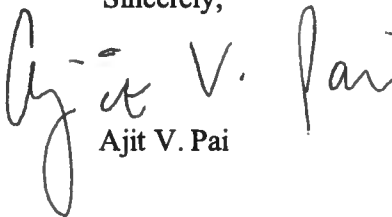
Dear Congressman Pocan:

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposal to establish a cap on the Universal Service Fund (USF or Fund), which could enable the Commission to evaluate the overall financial health of the Fund and its four component programs more comprehensively.

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Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

December 2, 2019

The Honorable Peter Welch
U.S. House of Representatives
2303 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

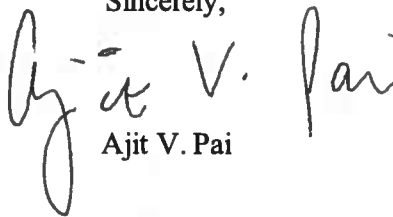
Dear Congressman Welch:

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposal to establish a cap on the Universal Service Fund (USF or Fund), which could enable the Commission to evaluate the overall financial health of the Fund and its four component programs more comprehensively.

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Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

December 2, 2019

The Honorable Ro Khanna
U.S. House of Representatives
221 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

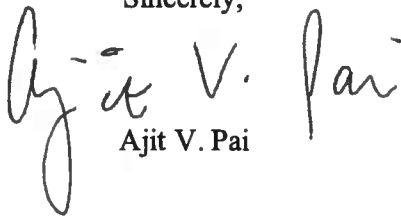
Dear Congressman Khanna:

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposal to establish a cap on the Universal Service Fund (USF or Fund), which could enable the Commission to evaluate the overall financial health of the Fund and its four component programs more comprehensively.

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Sincerely,


Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

December 2, 2019

The Honorable Sanford D. Bishop
U.S. House of Representatives
2407 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

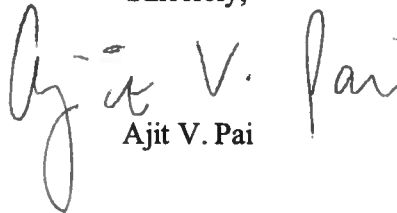
Dear Congressman Bishop:

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposal to establish a cap on the Universal Service Fund (USF or Fund), which could enable the Commission to evaluate the overall financial health of the Fund and its four component programs more comprehensively.

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Sincerely,


Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

December 2, 2019

The Honorable TJ Cox
U.S. House of Representatives
1728 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

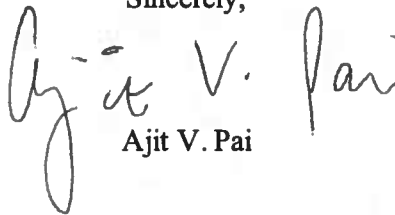
Dear Congressman Cox:

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposal to establish a cap on the Universal Service Fund (USF or Fund), which could enable the Commission to evaluate the overall financial health of the Fund and its four component programs more comprehensively.

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Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

December 2, 2019

The Honorable Ilhan Omar
U.S. House of Representatives
1517 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

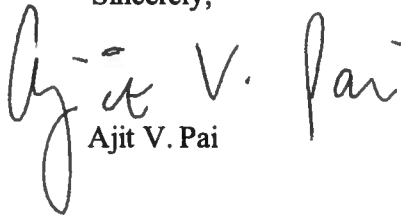
Dear Congresswoman Omar:

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposal to establish a cap on the Universal Service Fund (USF or Fund), which could enable the Commission to evaluate the overall financial health of the Fund and its four component programs more comprehensively.

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