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DISABILITY ASSISTANCE AND MEMORIAL

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-0912

January 29, 2020

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

Dear Chairman Pai,

I write in support of the Federal Communications Commissions (FCCs) decision to review the imbalance of regulation within the communications marketplace. Specifically, the *Modernizing Unbundling and Resale Rules in an Era of Next-Generation Networks and Services Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* (NPRM) is a good step in identifying the dichotomy in the space.

The telecommunications landscape continues to evolve at a rapid rate and is far different today than it was when the Telecommunications Act of 1996 was signed into law. In 2018, the RAY BAUM'S Act was passed to reauthorize the FCC and advance many telecommunications processes by 28 years. However, incumbent providers continue to be regulated under the 1996 rules. Meanwhile, a multitude of new entrants, including cellular, VoIP, and Internet based services are successfully competing for customers nation-wide.

As you know, the FCC has the authority to review and modify marketplace restrictions and obligations to reflect current trends, both nationally and geographically. I commend the FCC for engaging in this review with its NPRM, seeking industry input, and considering potential paths forward that treat all telecommunications competitors fairly in an ever-evolving marketplace.

Actions like this are necessary to ensure American leadership in the communications marketplace. I thank you for fostering industry growth and advancement through this NPRM.

Sincerely,

Gus M. Bilirakis

Member of Congress

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