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March 23, 2020

The Honorable Ajit Pai
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Pai,

I respectfully write to urge immediate wide-ranging action by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to protect access to quality, affordable Internet and telecommunications services for all Americans.

Mass adoption of online learning, work from home, and telehealth platforms to stem fallout from COVID-19 require extraordinary measures to ensure no person is left out or left behind. Never before has access to the Internet been more important for all Americans.

For these reasons, the FCC should act immediately to ensure America's broadband infrastructure is not overwhelmed by the unprecedented usage demands it is now facing. In particular, I urge the FCC to –

- (1) halt telecommunication service disconnections for individuals or small businesses facing financial distress;
- (2) streamline Lifeline services to make it less difficult to sign up for or renew;
- (3) expand distribution of mobile hotspots, particularly to households with students;
- (4) expand the FCC's Connected Care tele-health program to cover more low-income patients, veterans, and areas lacking adequate healthcare; and
- (5) dramatically intensify outreach and public awareness efforts of available FCC services.

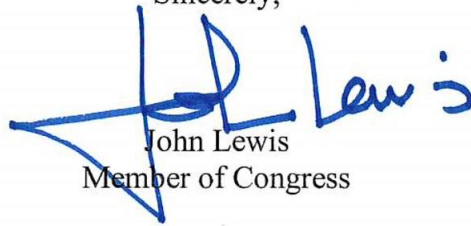
These efforts must work in concert, to both expand Internet access to all while protecting this nation's vital broadband arteries so that the free flow of information and communication can help America weather this crisis. Undoubtedly, significant work remains, but if the FCC takes

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these urgent, preliminary steps, our nation and our people will be better prepared for the work that lies ahead

As always, I appreciate your full and fair consideration of my views on this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Lewis". The signature is stylized, with a large "J" and "L" and a trailing "Lewis".

John Lewis
Member of Congress