Dear Chairman Wicker:

Thank you for your letter regarding my proposal to establish a 5G Fund for Rural America and the importance of collecting more accurate broadband deployment data. Closing the digital divide has been and remains my top priority. I’ve seen for myself what affordable high-speed Internet access can do for a community—for its families, its schools, its hospitals, its farms, its businesses—as well as the impact of its absence.

The Commission has worked over the past several years to improve its mobile broadband data collection processes. As your letter notes, the Commission decided not to move forward with Phase II of the agency’s Mobility Fund following staff’s analysis of data submitted in response to the one-time data collection and challenge process for MF-II. Last August, the Commission adopted the Digital Opportunity Data Collection Report and Order. The accompanying Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking proposed expanding the Digital Opportunity Data Collection to cover mobile broadband providers to ensure that their maps are accurate and updated in order to reflect changes in mobile broadband technology. The Commission outlined a number of proposals intended to improve our wireless mapping efforts, including standardizing technical parameters for mapping 4G LTE availability, accepting crowdsourced data from third parties, supplementing provider-submitted maps with on-the-ground and drive test data, strengthening the Commission’s data verification practices, and reforming the collection of mobile voice and broadband subscription data.

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Thank you for your commitment to rural broadband and American leadership in 5G. I look forward to continuing to work with you as the Commission implements the Broadband DATA Act and establishes future proceedings to expand access to next generation wireless networks, identify gaps in broadband coverage across the nation, and direct universal service support to areas that need it the most.

Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai
Dear Chairman Thune:

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Ajit V. Pai

Page 2—The Honorable John Thune
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Sincerely,

[Signature]

Ajit V. Pai
April 17, 2020

The Honorable Deb Fischer
United States Senate
454 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Fischer:

Thank you for your letter regarding my proposal to establish a 5G Fund for Rural America and the importance of collecting more accurate broadband deployment data. Closing the digital divide has been and remains my top priority. I’ve seen for myself what affordable high-speed Internet access can do for a community—for its families, its schools, its hospitals, its farms, its businesses—as well as the impact of its absence.

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Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai

Ajit V. Pai
April 17, 2020

The Honorable Jerry Moran
United States Senate
521 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Moran:

Thank you for your letter regarding my proposal to establish a 5G Fund for Rural America and the importance of collecting more accurate broadband deployment data. Closing the digital divide has been and remains my top priority. I've seen for myself what affordable high-speed Internet access can do for a community—for its families, its schools, its hospitals, its farms, its businesses—as well as the impact of its absence.

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Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai
The Honorable Ron Johnson  
United States Senate  
328 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Johnson:

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Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai
April 17, 2020

The Honorable Marsha Blackburn
United States Senate
B40B Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Blackburn:

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The Honorable Todd Young
United States Senate
400 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Young:

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