

April 22, 2020

Mr. Ajit Pai Chairman COVID-19 Telehealth Program Federal Communications Commission Re: COVID-19 Telehealth Program 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Pai:

We write in support of the funding application submitted by Houlton Regional Hospital to the COVID-19 Telehealth Program administered by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). If awarded, Houlton Regional Hospital (HRH) would acquire critical infrastructure upgrades in order to facilitate modern telehealth services for its patients.

Located in rural northern Maine, Houlton Regional Hospital is a nonprofit critical access facility that provides a broad range of healthcare services to several impoverished communities. Its current infrastructure does not enable telehealth visits with patients. Funding from the COVID-19 Telehealth Program would enable Houlton Regional Hospital to implement several critical updates: creating a user-friendly platform for reaching patients and purchasing a small quantity of computers with webcams. These updates will facilitate telehealth services with reliable live video and voice appointments. The use of remote patient care has helped to surmount the difficulty of clients in rural Maine, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic, and we believe it is vital that HRH has the resources it needs to access and treat its patients.

Thank you for your time on behalf of Houlton Regional Hospital. We request the FCC's careful consideration of this proposal, subject to all applicable laws and regulations, and ask that your staff please notify Brenna Kent (Collins) at (202) 224-2523 and Adam Lachman (King) at (202) 224-5344 when a final decision has been made.

Sincerely,

Ausan M. Collins

Susan M. Collins United States Senator

United States Senator