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May 1, 2020

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

Dear Chairman Pai,

I write to encourage full consideration for the Coalition of Orange County Community Clinics (Coalition OC) COVID-19 Telehealth Program Grant application, ID #1041460230368, WC Docket No. 20-89.

Coalition OC serves a diverse membership of 25 independent 501(c)3 non-profit health center organizations with 68 sites throughout Orange County. Through their membership's primary care safety net, they serve over 350,000 patients annually and have a commitment to providing quality, culturally and linguistically appropriate healthcare services to all. In Orange County, one out ten residents receive their healthcare at a community health center (CHC), with over 1 million encounters per year.

Coalition OC has expanded their use of telehealth as part of the drastic measures taken to respond to COVID-19. Funds from this grant will enable them to the fight against the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic through the use of remote devices to monitor their vulnerable diabetic patients. This population is at far higher risk from the terrible consequences of contracting COVID-19. The use of this technology can greatly reduce the chance of transmission of the virus to these high risk patients and also protect healthcare workers from unnecessary exposure.

This funding would have an immediate impact on healthcare providers and their patients as well as mitigate the strain that the Coalition of Orange County Community Clinics has experienced due to a significant decrease in revenue during this crisis. Thank for you for your consideration of the grant submission by the Coalition of Orange County Community Clinics submission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Levin".

MIKE LEVIN
Member of Congress