



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

May 11, 2020

The Honorable Debra Haaland
U.S. House of Representatives
1237 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Haaland:

I would like to thank you and the entire membership of the Congressional Native American Caucus for your leadership and your dedication to ensuring that Tribal Nations can benefit fully from digital connectivity. I share this goal, fully recognizing the importance of broadband and wireless services in so many aspects of our society, from public safety to telehealth, distance learning to employment opportunities.

It is for this reason that I have prioritized the Commission's creation of both spectrum access programs and funding programs designed to promote connectivity in rural areas, including on Tribal lands. For example, the 2.5 GHz Rural Tribal Priority Window, which is currently open for applications, allows eligible Tribes and Tribal entities to obtain licenses for unassigned 2.5 GHz spectrum over their rural Tribal lands. The upcoming Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Phase I Auction will make available up to \$16 billion in support, thereby providing Tribes and providers serving Tribal lands with an important opportunity to expand digital access to up to 248,244 locations throughout Indian Country. Commission staff continue to work hard on each initiative so that eligible entities can avail themselves as soon as possible.

While these efforts hold significant promise in the near term and beyond, the COVID-19 pandemic has created an unprecedented surge in demand across broadband networks nationwide. As a result, numerous carriers have experienced an urgent need for additional network capacity, such as through emergency access to spectrum, to enable providers to meet this short-term demand. I am keenly aware that this need is greatest in areas that have historically lacked adequate service, including rural Tribal areas.

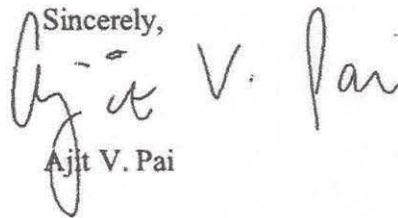
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staff have granted three emergency STAs in the 700 MHz and 2.5 GHz bands to support the Navajo Nation's communications and pandemic response efforts. We stand committed to respond quickly to assist all requesting Tribal Nations and their service providers in finding solutions tailored to meet their urgent connectivity needs.

Finally, at a time when our country is facing unprecedented challenges, telemedicine has never been more important, and I'm thankful Congress included \$200 million in the CARES Act for the FCC to establish a COVID-19 Telehealth Program to help health care providers provide connected care services to patients at their homes or mobile locations in response to COVID-19. We have already approved five sets of funding requests since April 13, supporting 56 health care providers in 23 states for a total of \$24.9 million in funding. Notably, the Commission has awarded \$954,990 to the Navajo Nation Department of Health, in Window Rock, Arizona. The health care providers serving Tribal land will use this funding to provide home health care and remote monitoring services during the coronavirus pandemic.

The FCC takes seriously its trust relationship with federally recognized Tribal Nations, and I look forward to continuing our work to provide greater digital opportunity to everyone in Indian Country, both in the near term and beyond.

Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

May 11, 2020

The Honorable Tom Cole
U.S. House of Representatives
2467 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Cole:

I would like to thank you and the entire membership of the Congressional Native American Caucus for your leadership and your dedication to ensuring that Tribal Nations can benefit fully from digital connectivity. I share this goal, fully recognizing the importance of broadband and wireless services in so many aspects of our society, from public safety to telehealth, distance learning to employment opportunities.

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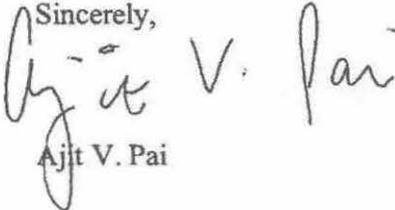
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Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

May 11, 2020

The Honorable Betty McCollum
U.S. House of Representatives
2256 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman McCollum:

I would like to thank you and the entire membership of the Congressional Native American Caucus for your leadership and your dedication to ensuring that Tribal Nations can benefit fully from digital connectivity. I share this goal, fully recognizing the importance of broadband and wireless services in so many aspects of our society, from public safety to telehealth, distance learning to employment opportunities.

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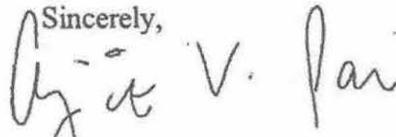
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

May 11, 2020

The Honorable Ben Ray Luján
U.S. House of Representatives
2231 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Luján:

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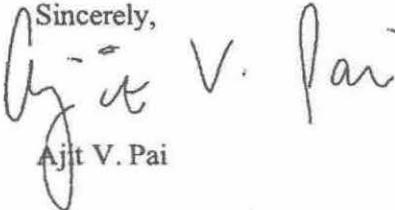
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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OFFICE OF
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May 11, 2020

The Honorable Sharice Davids
U.S. House of Representatives
1541 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Davids:

I would like to thank you and the entire membership of the Congressional Native American Caucus for your leadership and your dedication to ensuring that Tribal Nations can benefit fully from digital connectivity. I share this goal, fully recognizing the importance of broadband and wireless services in so many aspects of our society, from public safety to telehealth, distance learning to employment opportunities.

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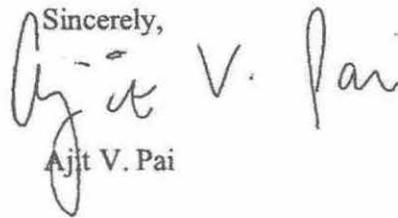
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

May 11, 2020

The Honorable Raúl M. Grijalva
U.S. House of Representatives
1511 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Grijalva:

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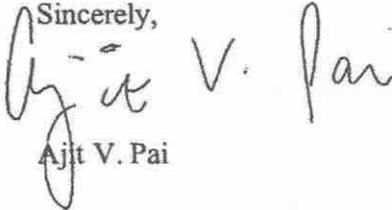
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

May 11, 2020

The Honorable Tom O'Halleran
U.S. House of Representatives
126 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman O'Halleran:

I would like to thank you and the entire membership of the Congressional Native American Caucus for your leadership and your dedication to ensuring that Tribal Nations can benefit fully from digital connectivity. I share this goal, fully recognizing the importance of broadband and wireless services in so many aspects of our society, from public safety to telehealth, distance learning to employment opportunities.

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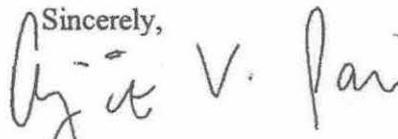
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OFFICE OF
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May 11, 2020

The Honorable Ruben Gallego
U.S. House of Representatives
1218 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Gallego:

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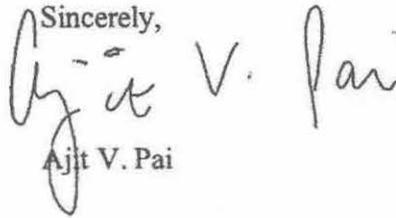
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OFFICE OF
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May 11, 2020

The Honorable Grace F. Napolitano
U.S. House of Representatives
1610 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Napolitano:

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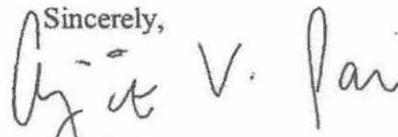
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Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

May 11, 2020

The Honorable Alcee L. Hastings
U.S. House of Representatives
2353 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Hastings:

I would like to thank you and the entire membership of the Congressional Native American Caucus for your leadership and your dedication to ensuring that Tribal Nations can benefit fully from digital connectivity. I share this goal, fully recognizing the importance of broadband and wireless services in so many aspects of our society, from public safety to telehealth, distance learning to employment opportunities.

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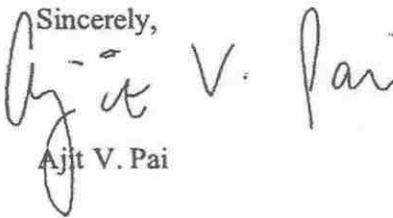
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

May 11, 2020

The Honorable Tony Cárdenas
U.S. House of Representatives
2438 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Cárdenas:

I would like to thank you and the entire membership of the Congressional Native American Caucus for your leadership and your dedication to ensuring that Tribal Nations can benefit fully from digital connectivity. I share this goal, fully recognizing the importance of broadband and wireless services in so many aspects of our society, from public safety to telehealth, distance learning to employment opportunities.

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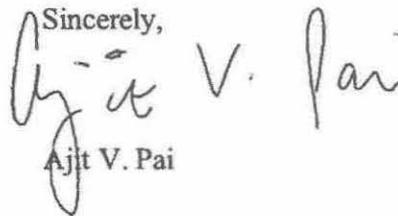
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Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

May 11, 2020

The Honorable Suzan DelBene
U.S. House of Representatives
2442 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman DelBene:

I would like to thank you and the entire membership of the Congressional Native American Caucus for your leadership and your dedication to ensuring that Tribal Nations can benefit fully from digital connectivity. I share this goal, fully recognizing the importance of broadband and wireless services in so many aspects of our society, from public safety to telehealth, distance learning to employment opportunities.

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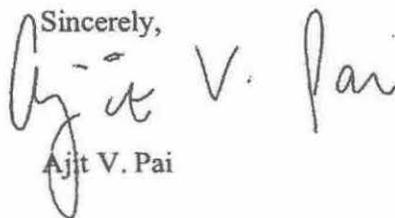
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ajit V. Pai". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "A" and a long, sweeping tail.

Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

May 11, 2020

The Honorable Kendra Horn
U.S. House of Representatives
415 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Horn:

I would like to thank you and the entire membership of the Congressional Native American Caucus for your leadership and your dedication to ensuring that Tribal Nations can benefit fully from digital connectivity. I share this goal, fully recognizing the importance of broadband and wireless services in so many aspects of our society, from public safety to telehealth, distance learning to employment opportunities.

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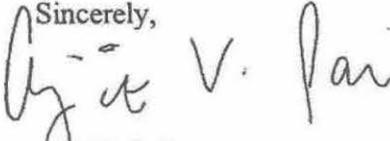
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

May 11, 2020

The Honorable Derek Kilmer
U.S. House of Representatives
1520 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Kilmer:

I would like to thank you and the entire membership of the Congressional Native American Caucus for your leadership and your dedication to ensuring that Tribal Nations can benefit fully from digital connectivity. I share this goal, fully recognizing the importance of broadband and wireless services in so many aspects of our society, from public safety to telehealth, distance learning to employment opportunities.

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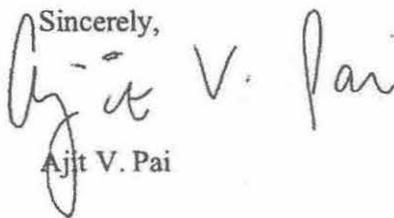
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

May 11, 2020

The Honorable Jared Huffman
U.S. House of Representatives
1406 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Huffman:

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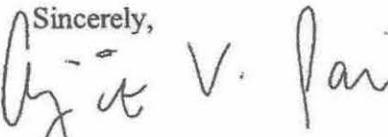
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