

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:  
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November 10, 2020

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

Dear Chairman Pai,

I write to encourage the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to promptly consider a pending Petition for Declaratory Ruling to clarify its existing utility pole attachment rules in order to reduce barriers to broadband deployment for unserved households in rural areas. Now more than ever, it is crucial that every American household have access to broadband.

In many rural areas, including in Wisconsin, broadband service is delivered via cables attached to utility poles. Congress directed the FCC to develop pole attachment rules to ensure that broadband providers have fair and timely access. However, too often, the process is complex and costly, and unnecessarily delays bringing service to the families and businesses that need it.

I hope the FCC will move quickly to clarify its rules in this space and ensure that there is a transparent, fair and fast process that considers the needs of pole owners and attachers.

Thank you for your attention to this issue and to increasing broadband access for all Americans.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin  
United States Senator

Cc: The Honorable Michael O'Rielly, Commissioner  
The Honorable Brendan Carr, Commissioner  
The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner  
The Honorable Geoffrey Starks, Commissioner