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DAVID STRICKLASS MAJORITY STAFF DIRECTOR JOHN KEAST REPUBLICAN STAFF DIRECTOR

## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6125

WEBSITE: https://commerce.senate.gov

March 2, 2021

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The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel Acting Chairwoman **Federal Communications Commission** 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear Acting Chairwoman Rosenworcel:

Over the past year, the coronavirus has taken a heavy toll on the U.S. economy and on Americans' daily lives. Stay-at-home orders have made closing the digital divide all the more urgent as Americans now depend more on the internet to engage economically and socially.

I welcome the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) ongoing work to keep Americans connected amid this pandemic, particularly in rural and underserved communities. As I evaluate the Universal Service Fund (USF) for the upcoming congressional session, I am requesting information regarding the full funding capabilities that the FCC has at its disposal.

Please provide a detailed status of funds report for all USF accounts, including but not limited to the Connect America Fund (CAF), Lifeline Program for Low-Income Consumers, E-Rate - Schools & Libraries Program, and the Rural Health Care Program. This report should clearly identify the amount of funds currently available, committed, and obligated. For obligated funds, please detail all open obligations, including partial obligations, regardless of the fiscal year in which they were appropriated or obligated. I request that this report be made available to my staff no later than March 9, 2021.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and your continued commitment to keeping Americans connected. For any further information or guidance, please contact Robert Turner or Olivia Trusty on my staff (202-224-1251).

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Cc: Hon. Maria Cantwell

Chair, Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Radha Sekar

Chief Executive Officer, Universal Service Administrative Company