



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Tom Latham
U.S. House of Representatives
2217 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Latham:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

The universal service program is one of the most important tools at our disposal to ensure that consumers and businesses in rural America have the same opportunities as their urban and suburban counterparts to be active participants in the United States of the 21st century. I agree with you that the existing universal service mechanisms for rate-of-return carriers "represent a real obstacle to the broadband future toward which we are all aiming." We are focused on updating the universal service program to ensure that we are delivering the best possible voice and broadband experiences to rural America within the confines of our Connect America budget, while providing increased certainty and predictability for all carriers and a climate for increased broadband expansion.

To that end, in April the Commission voted to move forward with Phase II of the Connect America Fund for price-cap carriers, and took several steps to improve the climate for broadband investment in areas served by incumbent rate-of-return carriers. In particular, we eliminated the Quantile Regression Analysis benchmarks rule because it was not serving its intended purpose. In addition, in the above-mentioned *Further Notice*, the Commission proposed a stand-alone broadband funding mechanism for rate-of-return carriers and sought comment on how to support the deployment of broadband-capable networks by rate-of-return carriers within the current budget for the program. We expect a robust record on how a standalone broadband mechanism could be structured to provide support consistent with the \$2 billion budget for rate-of-return territories.

I appreciate your interest in this matter, and I look forward to working with you as we continue the work of reforming and modernizing the universal service fund high-cost program – as well as other components of the Fund – to ensure that all Americans have access to robust voice and broadband services.

Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Bob Latta
U.S. House of Representatives
2448 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Latta:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Dave Loebsack
U.S. House of Representatives
1527 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Loebsack:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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OFFICE OF
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June 30, 2014

The Honorable Billy Long
U.S. House of Representatives
1541 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Long:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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June 30, 2014

The Honorable Frank Lucas
U.S. House of Representatives
2311 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Lucas:

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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OFFICE OF
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June 30, 2014

The Honorable Blaine Luetkemeyer
U.S. House of Representatives
2440 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Luetkemeyer:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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June 30, 2014

The Honorable Cynthia Lummis
U.S. House of Representatives
113 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Lummis:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Mike McIntyre
U.S. House of Representatives
2428 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman McIntyre:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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June 30, 2014

The Honorable David McKinley
U.S. House of Representatives
412 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman McKinley:

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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June 30, 2014

The Honorable Mark Meadows
U.S. House of Representatives
1516 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Meadows:

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Luke Messer
U.S. House of Representatives
508 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Messer:

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OFFICE OF
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June 30, 2014

The Honorable Michael Michaud
U.S. House of Representatives
1724 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Michaud:

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June 30, 2014

The Honorable Kristi Noem
U.S. House of Representatives
1323 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Noem:

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June 30, 2014

The Honorable Rick Nolan
U.S. House of Representatives
2447 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Nolan:

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The Honorable Alan Nunnelee
U.S. House of Representatives
1427 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Nunnelee:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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I appreciate your interest in this matter, and I look forward to working with you as we continue the work of reforming and modernizing the universal service fund high-cost program – as well as other components of the Fund – to ensure that all Americans have access to robust voice and broadband services.

Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Wheeler".

Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Steve Pearce
U.S. House of Representatives
2432 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Pearce:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Tom Petri
U.S. House of Representatives
2462 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Petri:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Chellie Pingree
U.S. House of Representatives
1318 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Pingree:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that we adopted in April*. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Reid Ribble
U.S. House of Representatives
1513 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Ribble:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Harold Rogers
U.S. House of Representatives
2406 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Rogers:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that we adopted in April*. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Todd Rokita
U.S. House of Representatives
236 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Rokita:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Aaron Schock
U.S. House of Representatives
328 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Schock:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Kurt Schrader
U.S. House of Representatives
108 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Schrader:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Jim Sensenbrenner
U.S. House of Representatives
2449 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Sensenbrenner:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Adrian Smith
U.S. House of Representatives
2241 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Smith:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Jason Smith
U.S. House of Representatives
2230 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Smith:

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable John Shimkus
U.S. House of Representatives
2452 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Shimkus:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Chris Stewart
U.S. House of Representatives
323 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Stewart:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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June 30, 2014

The Honorable Lee Terry
U.S. House of Representatives
2266 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Terry:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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I appreciate your interest in this matter, and I look forward to working with you as we continue the work of reforming and modernizing the universal service fund high-cost program – as well as other components of the Fund – to ensure that all Americans have access to robust voice and broadband services.

Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Wheeler".

Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Mac Thornberry
U.S. House of Representatives
2329 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Thornberry:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Scott Tipton
U.S. House of Representatives
218 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Tipton:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable David Valadao
U.S. House of Representatives
1004 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Valadao:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Filemon Vela
U.S. House of Representatives
437 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Vela:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Tim Walberg
U.S. House of Representatives
418 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Walberg:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Jackie Walorski
U.S. House of Representatives
419 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Walorski:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Tim Walz
U.S. House of Representatives
1034 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Walz:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Peter Welch
U.S. House of Representatives
2303 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Welch:

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Edward Whitfield
U.S. House of Representatives
2184 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Whitfield:

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Joe Wilson
U.S. House of Representatives
2229 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Wilson:

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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Steve Womack
U.S. House of Representatives
1119 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Womack:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Don Young
U.S. House of Representatives
2314 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Young:

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Todd Young
U.S. House of Representatives
1721 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

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OFFICE OF
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June 30, 2014

The Honorable Doug Lamborn
U.S. House of Representatives
2402 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Lamborn:

Thank you for your letter supporting the creation of a Connect America mechanism for areas served by rural rate-of-return carriers, and a method to provide support for broadband-only lines. This is one of the key issues that the Commission raised in the *Connect America Fund Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* that we adopted in April. Your views on this matter are very important, and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

The universal service program is one of the most important tools at our disposal to ensure that consumers and businesses in rural America have the same opportunities as their urban and suburban counterparts to be active participants in the United States of the 21st century. I agree with you that the existing universal service mechanisms for rate-of-return carriers "represent a real obstacle to the broadband future toward which we are all aiming." We are focused on updating the universal service program to ensure that we are delivering the best possible voice and broadband experiences to rural America within the confines of our Connect America budget, while providing increased certainty and predictability for all carriers and a climate for increased broadband expansion.

To that end, in April the Commission voted to move forward with Phase II of the Connect America Fund for price-cap carriers, and took several steps to improve the climate for broadband investment in areas served by incumbent rate-of-return carriers. In particular, we eliminated the Quantile Regression Analysis benchmarks rule because it was not serving its intended purpose. In addition, in the above-mentioned *Further Notice*, the Commission proposed a stand-alone broadband funding mechanism for rate-of-return carriers and sought comment on how to support the deployment of broadband-capable networks by rate-of-return carriers within the current budget for the program. We expect a robust record on how a standalone broadband mechanism could be structured to provide support consistent with the \$2 billion budget for rate-of-return territories.

I appreciate your interest in this matter, and I look forward to working with you as we continue the work of reforming and modernizing the universal service fund high-cost program – as well as other components of the Fund – to ensure that all Americans have access to robust voice and broadband services.

Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Wheeler".

Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

June 30, 2014

The Honorable Doug LaMalfa
U.S. House of Representatives
506 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

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