



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

May 9, 2018

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar
United States Senate
302 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Klobuchar:

Thank you for your letter about the Federal Communications Commission's efforts to accelerate wireline broadband deployment to all Americans. As you know, we are amidst a transformation of American communications networks, as more and more consumers move away from using traditional telephone services provided over copper wires and towards incorporating into every aspect of their lives services provided over next-generation technologies. For consumers and the country, making that leap from legacy services provided over 20th century copper-based networks to IP-based services riding over a fiber network is the key to bridging the digital divide.

But that digital opportunity is denied when the FCC's rules force carriers to maintain the networks of yesteryear. Unneeded regulations deter many companies from investing in these new networks. Having to maintain two networks—one legacy, one modern—diverts resources away from new deployments. By definition, every dollar spent propping up fading infrastructure is a dollar that can't be spent on tomorrow's technologies.

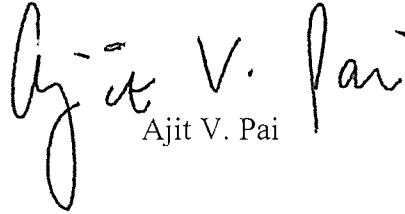
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I agree with you that we must protect consumers during and after technology transitions—and our rules continue to do just that. Should a carrier seek to stop offering traditional telephone service or reduce that service through a de facto copper retirement, the Commission's rules *still* require that carrier to provide advance notification to affected customers and to seek Commission permission through the section 214 discontinuance of service process. Our rules *still* ensure that replacement services are compliant with 911 obligations and accessible to individuals with disabilities. And the record confirms that alarm systems, fax machines, and medical monitoring devices *still* continue to work over fiber facilities—and that next-generation

networks dramatically expand the competitive choices for consumers for these very services (and many others).

I appreciate your interest in this matter. I look forward to continuing to work with you and my colleagues at the Commission to further advance the benefits of next generation technology to all Americans. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

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Ajit V. Pai



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THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

May 9, 2018

The Honorable Bernard Sanders
United States Senate
332 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Sanders:

Thank you for your letter about the Federal Communications Commission's efforts to accelerate wireline broadband deployment to all Americans. As you know, we are amidst a transformation of American communications networks, as more and more consumers move away from using traditional telephone services provided over copper wires and towards incorporating into every aspect of their lives services provided over next-generation technologies. For consumers and the country, making that leap from legacy services provided over 20th century copper-based networks to IP-based services riding over a fiber network is the key to bridging the digital divide.

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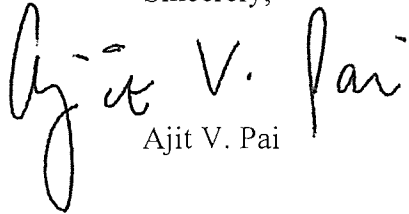
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Ajit V. Pai



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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

May 9, 2018

The Honorable Catherine Cortez Masto
United States Senate
B40A Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cortez Masto:

Thank you for your letter about the Federal Communications Commission's efforts to accelerate wireline broadband deployment to all Americans. As you know, we are amidst a transformation of American communications networks, as more and more consumers move away from using traditional telephone services provided over copper wires and towards incorporating into every aspect of their lives services provided over next-generation technologies. For consumers and the country, making that leap from legacy services provided over 20th century copper-based networks to IP-based services riding over a fiber network is the key to bridging the digital divide.

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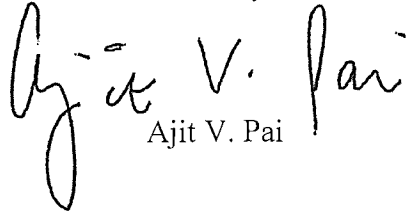
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WASHINGTON

May 9, 2018

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
United States Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Schumer:

Thank you for your letter about the Federal Communications Commission's efforts to accelerate wireline broadband deployment to all Americans. As you know, we are amidst a transformation of American communications networks, as more and more consumers move away from using traditional telephone services provided over copper wires and towards incorporating into every aspect of their lives services provided over next-generation technologies. For consumers and the country, making that leap from legacy services provided over 20th century copper-based networks to IP-based services riding over a fiber network is the key to bridging the digital divide.

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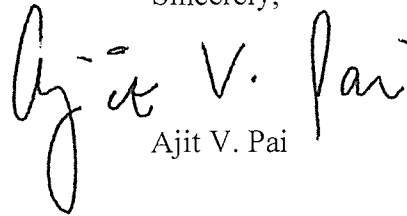
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WASHINGTON

May 9, 2018

The Honorable Edward J. Markey
United States Senate
255 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Markey:

Thank you for your letter about the Federal Communications Commission's efforts to accelerate wireline broadband deployment to all Americans. As you know, we are amidst a transformation of American communications networks, as more and more consumers move away from using traditional telephone services provided over copper wires and towards incorporating into every aspect of their lives services provided over next-generation technologies. For consumers and the country, making that leap from legacy services provided over 20th century copper-based networks to IP-based services riding over a fiber network is the key to bridging the digital divide.

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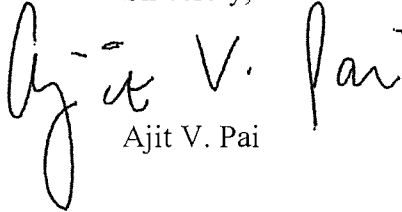
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Ajit V. Pai



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WASHINGTON

May 9, 2018

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren
United States Senate
317 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Warren:

Thank you for your letter about the Federal Communications Commission's efforts to accelerate wireline broadband deployment to all Americans. As you know, we are amidst a transformation of American communications networks, as more and more consumers move away from using traditional telephone services provided over copper wires and towards incorporating into every aspect of their lives services provided over next-generation technologies. For consumers and the country, making that leap from legacy services provided over 20th century copper-based networks to IP-based services riding over a fiber network is the key to bridging the digital divide.

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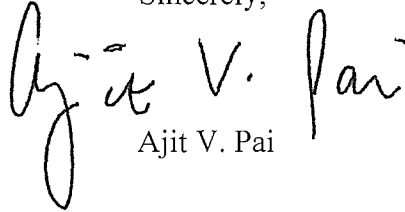
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Ajit V. Pai

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May 9, 2018

The Honorable Gary Peters
United States Senate
724 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Peters:

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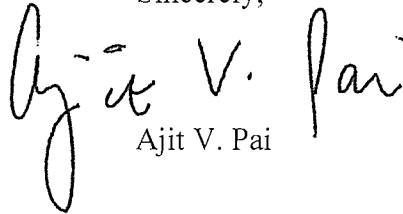
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May 9, 2018

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senate
506 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Shaheen:

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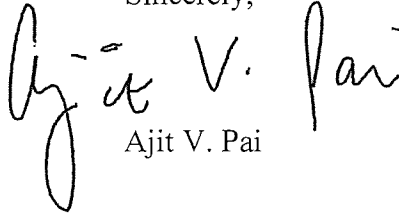
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WASHINGTON

May 9, 2018

The Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senate
478 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Gillibrand:

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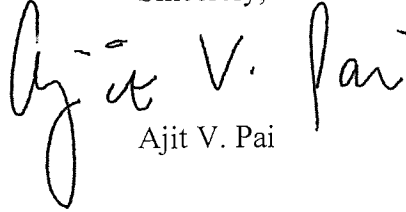
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May 9, 2018

The Honorable Maggie Hassan
United States Senate
B85 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Hassan:

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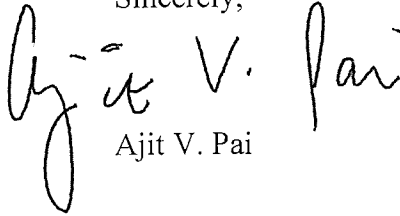
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May 9, 2018

The Honorable Richard Blumenthal
United States Senate
706 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Blumenthal:

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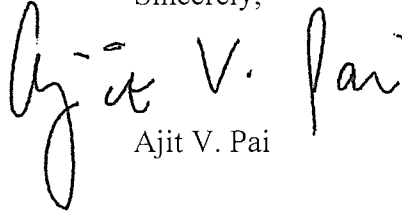
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I appreciate your interest in this matter. I look forward to continuing to work with you and my colleagues at the Commission to further advance the benefits of next generation technology to all Americans. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

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Ajit V. Pai



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

May 9, 2018

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
United States Senate
711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Durbin:

Thank you for your letter about the Federal Communications Commission's efforts to accelerate wireline broadband deployment to all Americans. As you know, we are amidst a transformation of American communications networks, as more and more consumers move away from using traditional telephone services provided over copper wires and towards incorporating into every aspect of their lives services provided over next-generation technologies. For consumers and the country, making that leap from legacy services provided over 20th century copper-based networks to IP-based services riding over a fiber network is the key to bridging the digital divide.

But that digital opportunity is denied when the FCC's rules force carriers to maintain the networks of yesteryear. Unneeded regulations deter many companies from investing in these new networks. Having to maintain two networks—one legacy, one modern—diverts resources away from new deployments. By definition, every dollar spent propping up fading infrastructure is a dollar that can't be spent on tomorrow's technologies.

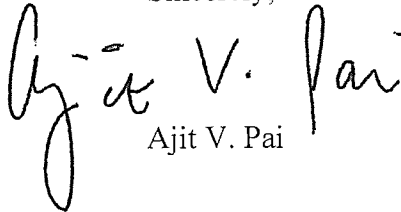
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Ajit V. Pai



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

May 9, 2018

The Honorable Sherrod Brown
United States Senate
713 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Brown:

Thank you for your letter about the Federal Communications Commission's efforts to accelerate wireline broadband deployment to all Americans. As you know, we are amidst a transformation of American communications networks, as more and more consumers move away from using traditional telephone services provided over copper wires and towards incorporating into every aspect of their lives services provided over next-generation technologies. For consumers and the country, making that leap from legacy services provided over 20th century copper-based networks to IP-based services riding over a fiber network is the key to bridging the digital divide.

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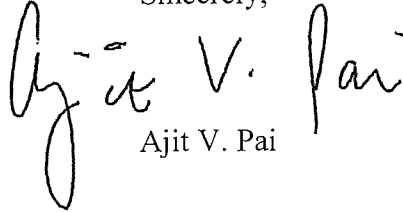
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Ajit V. Pai



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

May 9, 2018

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin
United States Senate
717 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Baldwin:

Thank you for your letter about the Federal Communications Commission's efforts to accelerate wireline broadband deployment to all Americans. As you know, we are amidst a transformation of American communications networks, as more and more consumers move away from using traditional telephone services provided over copper wires and towards incorporating into every aspect of their lives services provided over next-generation technologies. For consumers and the country, making that leap from legacy services provided over 20th century copper-based networks to IP-based services riding over a fiber network is the key to bridging the digital divide.

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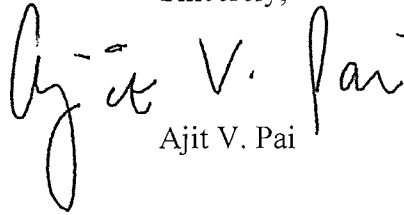
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OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

May 9, 2018

The Honorable Tammy Duckworth
United States Senate
G12 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Duckworth:

Thank you for your letter about the Federal Communications Commission's efforts to accelerate wireline broadband deployment to all Americans. As you know, we are amidst a transformation of American communications networks, as more and more consumers move away from using traditional telephone services provided over copper wires and towards incorporating into every aspect of their lives services provided over next-generation technologies. For consumers and the country, making that leap from legacy services provided over 20th century copper-based networks to IP-based services riding over a fiber network is the key to bridging the digital divide.

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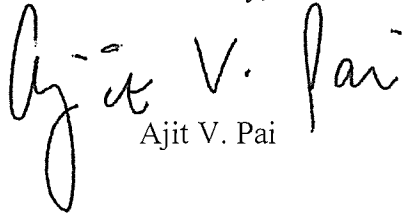
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