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MONTANA

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Received & Inspected

DEC 05 2017

FCC Mailroom

November 30, 2017

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

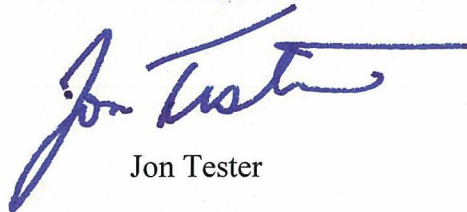
Dear Chairman Pai:

I write to support Rebecca Manna's application to serve on the Rural Health Committee of the Universal Service Administrative Company's (USAC) Board of Directors. Ms. Manna works at Kalispell Regional Healthcare, which provides health services to over 170,000 Montanans in Flathead County. Institutions like Kalispell Regional are critically important to rural Montana communities. Even in the face of major challenges like workforce shortages and geographic distance, they connect their neighbors to the health care they need.

Communications technology plays an important and increasing role in the provision of health care in rural communities, and no one knows this better than Montana health care providers. They are on the front lines of using telemedicine to overcome barriers to care in our sparsely-populated and underserved state. Having a Montanan at the table will help bring this rural experience and perspective to USAC's decision-making, and ensure that USAC policies meet the needs of rural residents throughout our country.

I appreciate your attention to this matter, and I look forward to hearing from you regarding the status of Ms. Manna's application.

Sincerely,



Jon Tester

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

December 20, 2017

The Honorable Jon Tester
United States Senate
311 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Tester:

Thank you for your letter supporting the appointment of Ms. Rebecca Manna to serve on the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) Board of Directors as a representative of rural health care providers.

I appreciate the information you provided regarding Ms. Manna's experience on rural health care issues and tele-health service, including her current position with Kalispell Regional Healthcare. Please be assured that I will carefully consider your recommendation of Ms. Manna's credentials as I make final decisions on nominees to the USAC Board of Directors.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Your views are very important and will be entered into the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Ajit V. Pai", is written over the printed name.

Ajit V. Pai