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Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

December 19, 2017

The Honorable Ajit Pai
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

ACCEPTED/FILED

JAN 19 2018

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Chairman Pai:

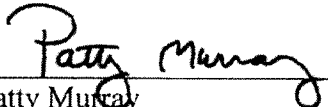
We write today to urge the Commission to authorize additional Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) funding in Washington state before the end of 2017.


Increasing A-CAM funding to up to \$200/month per eligible customer location would allow for current A-CAM plan participants to meet their defined additional broadband deployment commitments. Notably, these additional commitments expire on December 31, 2017 absent increased A-CAM support. Subsequently, by raising the maximum A-CAM contribution prior to the end of 2017, the Commission could immediately expand the availability of broadband services for thousands of rural and underserved Washington state residents and communities.

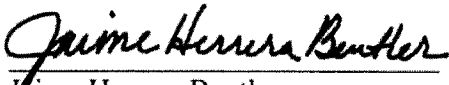
We strongly support the Commission's goal of universal service and affordable connectivity, and urge you to take expeditious action on this matter. To those same ends, we also ask that you explore how the Commission may increase universal service funding for rural carriers not participating in the A-CAM plan.

Thank you for your consideration of this critical issue.

Sincerely,


Patty Murray
United States Senator


Maria Cantwell
United States Senator


Jaime Herrera Beutler
Member of Congress

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