gretchen whitmer

Governor State of Michigan Seal

State of Michigan

department of Education

Lansing

MICHAEL F. RICE, ph.D.

State Superintendent

The Honorable Ajit Pai, Chairman

Federal Communications Commission

445 12th Street, SW

Washington, DC 20554

*RE: In the Matter of: Nomination for Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors, CC Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45*

Dear Chairman Pai:

I would like to support the American Library Association’s (ALA) nomination of Amber Gregory to serve as the library representative on the Universal Service Administrative Company’s (USAC) Board of Directors. Recently I decided to interview three other state E-Rate coordinators for a presentation I was making in Michigan on different state models of support. I called Amber Gregory first because I know how knowledgeable and effective she is in her position. Amber is devoted to working with and for libraries.

Ms. Gregory is the current Manager of E-Rate Services at the Arkansas State Library, a position she has held since 2010. In this position, Amber conducts E-rate workshops and provides a variety of E-rate support activities. For example, she offers direct, “hands-on” assistance to library staff with all facets of the E-rate application process and the program’s invoicing and other post-commitment processes. This assistance is critically important to ensure that the state’s public libraries—especially those in smaller, rural communities—correctly follow the many E-rate rules and ultimately receive their E-rate funding.

Ms. Gregory is also active at the national level in E-rate activities and currently chairs the American Library Association’s E-Rate Task Force. In her work on the Task Force Amber helps develop ALA’s position on various E-rate issues and assists the association in developing responses to the Commission’s public notices on the program. In addition, she is highly respected by other state library E-rate coordinators for her leadership and E-rate expertise.

Sincerely,

A close up of a piece of paper

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Sonya Schryer Norris

Library E-Rate Coordinator

Library of Michigan