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May 1, 2019

Honorable Ajit Pai, Chairman

Federal Communications Commission

445 12th Street SE

Washington, DC 20554

Re: Reply Comments to Media Bureau on Video Description Marketplace Improvements (DA 19-40)

Dear Chairman Pai:

I am writing to you in support of the comments filed by the American Council of the Blind (ACB) on April 1. Video description is a transformative tool enjoyed by Americans who are sighted, visually impaired, as well as blind. I agree with ACB that the FCC’s report to inform Congress on the video description marketplace should:

• Recommend the expansion of video description to serve all Americans;

• Recommend expanding the required hours of described programming;

• Recommend that video described programming be passed through to consumers, regardless of the means of video delivery; and,

• Recommend the creation of a centralized guide listing for all video described programming.

I am blind, and because I had been creating my own version of what was happening, I actually didn’t know how much detail, and often vital information I was missing, until video description became available. It has been extremely frustrating to than have major gaps in what was truly accessible. It was not always clear what was being broadcast in this format, and there were glitches in turning on the. descriptive option. I appreciate your consideration of our full access by use of video description.

Sincerely,

Cathy McAdam