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6TH DISTRICT, COLORADO

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Congress of the United States 1071
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COFFMAN.HOUSE.GOV

December 12, 2017

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

Dear Chairman Pai,

I write to you concerning the Federal Communications Commission's proposed rulemaking on "Restoring Internet Freedom" and your impending December 14th vote on the matter. The Internet has been and remains a transformative tool, and I am concerned that any action you may take to alter the rules under which it functions may well have significant unanticipated negative consequences. Therefore, I urge you to delay your upcoming vote and provide Congress with the opportunity to hold hearings on the net neutrality issue and to pass permanent open Internet legislation.

The preceding four Chairmen of the Federal Communications Commission, two Republicans and two Democrats, all took steps to uphold the basic principles that guaranteed a free and open internet. Their combined efforts have given the nation a highly successful and popular space notable for free markets, free expression and for the tremendous growth in the Internet economy.

As you stated in your dissent to the previous FCC's open Internet proceeding, "A dispute this fundamental is not for us, five unelected individuals, to decide. Instead, it should be resolved by the people's elected representatives, those who choose the direction of government—and those whom the American people can hold accountable for that choice."¹

I believe Congress can find the right balance of light-touch regulatory authority while celebrating the same open Internet protections that exist today. I greatly appreciate your consideration and look forward to working with you to find a permanent legislative solution to ensure the continuation of a free and open Internet.

Sincerely,



Mike Coffman
Member of Congress

cc: Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael O'Rielly
Commissioner Brendan Carr
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel

¹ FCC Commissioner Pai 2014 OI NPRM Dissent at 2, https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-14-61A5.pdf.



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

May 24, 2018

The Honorable Mike Coffman
U.S. House of Representatives
2443 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

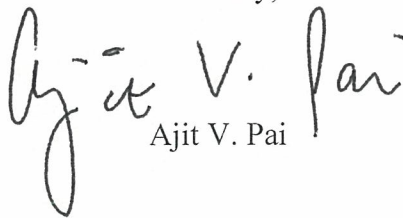
Dear Congressman Coffman:

Thank you for your letter regarding the *Restoring Internet Freedom Order*, which reestablished the authority of the Federal Trade Commission to oversee the network management practices of Internet service providers while returning to the light-touch legal framework that governed such practices for almost twenty years.

While I strongly believe that the FCC took the appropriate action when it repealed the heavy-handed, utility-style Internet regulations adopted in 2015 during the Obama Administration, I also agree with your view that Congress should work toward a permanent legislative solution to address this issue. In that regard, I applaud your efforts to develop such legislation as well as your commitment to a framework that embraces both light-touch regulation and protection for a free and open Internet.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Your views are important and will be entered into the record of the proceeding. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ajit V. Pai". The signature is stylized, with the first name "Ajit" written in a cursive-like script and the last name "Pai" in a more formal, upright script. The middle initial "V." is written in a simple, clear font between the first and last names.

Ajit V. Pai