



**COUNCIL OF ATHABASCAN TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS**

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*"Protecting and enhancing our tribal members, communities & culture through self-governance"*

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July 22, 2019

Chairman Ajit Pai

Commissioner Mike O'Rielly

Commissioner Brendan Carr

Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel

Commissioner Geoffrey Starks

Federal Communications Commission

445 12th Street, SW

Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Comment on WC Docket No. 17-310**

Dear Chairman and Commissioners:

The Council of Athabascan Tribal Governments (CATG) appreciates the Federal Communications Commission's goal of improving the policies and operation of the Rural Healthcare (RHC) program. Unfortunately, we believe that the proposed Report and Order released on July 11, 2019 leaves open too many issues and raises new questions. The intent to review this order at the August 1, 2019 meeting prevents our organization from conducting a meaningful review of the order and its potential impact to the way our organization delivers telehealth services to Alaskans.

Therefore, we respectfully ask you to remove the proposed Report and Order from the August 1, 2019 agenda for the open Commission meeting so we can better assess information included in the proposed Report and Order and that issues raised in the draft document can be clarified.

Respectfully,

Charleen Fisher, Executive Director, CATG

Cc: Senator Lisa Murkowski  
Senator Dan Sullivan