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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
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July 8, 2019

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436

Ajit Pai
FCC Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. SW
Washington, DC 20544

Dear Chairman Pai,

I write to offer a professional recommendation of Steven Strickland for appointment to the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) new Precision Agriculture Connectivity Task Force. After reviewing his resume, it is evident that Mr. Strickland is qualified for a position on the task force.

With the task force's vital role in developing policy solutions for broadband connectivity to unserved and underserved agricultural areas, Mr. Strickland's knowledge and background in mobile network deployment would make a beneficial contribution. As the Representative for Georgia's 10th Congressional District, which comprises twenty-six counties and heavily rural areas, I understand the importance of narrowing the digital divide, and the lasting impact it will have on these communities.

As a resident of Georgia's 10th district, Mr. Strickland's involvement in this task force would bring a unique dynamic of industry expertise and firsthand knowledge of these challenges. Mr. Strickland is the current Executive Director of the Eastern United States at ExteNet Systems, Inc., one of the country's leading operators of fiber and small cell infrastructure. Serving in several positions locally, including Planning Commissioner, Mr. Strickland's involvement in Oconee County demonstrates his commitment to rural community development. Finally, Mr. Strickland is engaged in shaping technology policy at the state level on the Technology Association of Georgia's legislative task force.

From Mr. Strickland's wealth of experiences, it is clear that he would be a valuable addition to the FCC's Precision Agriculture Connectivity Task Force. Thank you for your consideration of this professional recommendation. If you should have any further questions, then please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,



Jody B. Hice
Member of Congress (GA-10)



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

July 18, 2019

The Honorable Jody Hice
U.S. House of Representatives
324 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Hice:

Thank you for your letter supporting the appointment of Mr. Steven Strickland, Executive Director of the Eastern United States at ExteNet Systems, Inc., to serve on the Commission's Task Force for Reviewing Connectivity and Technology Needs of Precision Agriculture in the United States. We will certainly consider your recommendation and Mr. Strickland's impressive resume as the Commission reviews the nominations for the Task Force and its working groups.

I appreciate you taking the time to communicate your recommendation to me. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ajit V. Pai". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ajit" being the most prominent part.

Ajit V. Pai