

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4317

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July 19, 2019

The Honorable Ajit Pai
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Pai:

I am writing to extend my support to Dr. Alex Thomasson as a candidate for appointment to the Federal Communications Commission's new task force on Reviewing Connectivity and Technology Needs of Precision Agriculture in the United States

Dr. Thomasson is an internationally recognized expert with over 30 years of experience in improving productivity, efficiency, and sustainability in agriculture, including over 14 years at Texas A&M University where he is currently a professor and the Endowed Chair in Cotton Engineering in the Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering. His research has made significant contributions to improving agricultural production and sustainability through precision agriculture, sensors, data analytics, and robotics

In recent years Dr. Thomasson has been a leader on this topic. His recently published work focused on wireless connectivity for data collection and processing. Last year, Dr. Thomasson was invited to participate in USDA's "Precision Agriculture and Broadband Roundtable" and provided valuable insight into the needs of precision agriculture. He also hosted the "Identifying Obstacles to Applying Big Data in Agriculture" conference which focused on the need for connectivity in agriculture. A clear subject matter expert, Dr. Thomasson would provide foresight and practical thinking on how the task force can best help realize the potential transformation in agriculture possible via expanded broadband access and the "internet of agriculture."

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly endorse Dr. Thomasson and I thank you for your consideration of this recommendation. Should you have any questions or need additional information please contact my office at 202-225-6105.

With great respect,



Bill Flores
Member of Congress



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

July 25, 2019

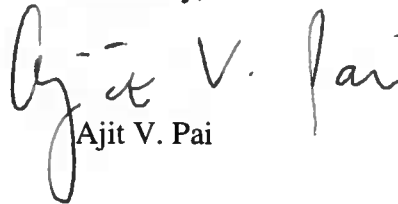
The Honorable Bill Flores
U.S. House of Representatives
2440 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Flores:

Thank you for your letter supporting the appointment of Dr. Alex Thomasson, Endowed Chair in Cotton Engineering in the Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering at Texas A&M University, 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 Dr. Thomasson'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,


Ajit V. Pai