December 5, 2018

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Immediate Past President

The Honorable Ajit Pai

Chairman

Federal Communications Commission

445 12th Street, SW

Washington, DC 20554

RE: Wireless Messaging Service Declaratory Ruling – WT Docket No. 08-7

Dear Chairman Pai,

On behalf of the National Organization of Black Elected Legislative Women (NOBEL Women), we write express our support for the Federal Communications Commission’s proposed order to prevent unwanted spam and fraudulent messages known as “robotexts.” NOBEL Women, established in 1985, is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization representing more than 280 black female state legislators from across the United States. NOBEL Women tirelessly focuses on policy solutions that affect the lives of women, children, and their communities. Please feel free to visit our website, www.nobelwomen.org for additional information.

Communities of color have come to rely on the services and offerings afforded to them through mobile technologies. In fact, ninety-eight percent (98%) of African Americans own a cellphone, the highest percentage across all demographic groups in the United States. Wireless communications have become critical for educational, economic, healthcare, and social resources.

Given this preference for mobile devices, it is imperative to maintain the necessary level of protections available to prevent robotexts from plaguing our constituents. Wireless carriers must be allowed to continue to filter out robotext messages that their customers do not want. We agree that removing the current regulatory framework would open up our constituents to a torrent of unwanted text messages, exposing them to harmful spam and fraud in the process.

Best regards,



Representative Karen Camper (TN)

National President, NOBEL Women