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MARGARET E. DAUM, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

755

September 15, 2017

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

Ms. Vickie Robinson
Acting CEO and General Counsel
Universal Service Administrative Company
700 12th Street NW, Suite 900
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Chairman Pai and Ms. Robinson:

Thank you for testifying at the September 14, 2017 hearing of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs titled "FCC's Lifeline Program: A Case Study of Government Waste and Mismanagement." Based on the testimony you provided, we believe there is a need for the Federal Communications Commission and the Universal Service Administrative Company to initiate forensic audits of the top 30 Eligible Telecommunication Carriers. By taking this immediate action, you will identify actual waste, fraud, and abuse to support appropriate enforcement actions and make necessary policy changes to protect taxpayer dollars. When deciding how to initiate these audits, whether through third-party auditors or other means, we request you take every reasonable step to minimize the cost to taxpayers.

We ask that you please follow up with the Committee about your actions in this regard as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on October 13, 2017. Please contact us or have your staff contact Michael Lueptow with Senator Johnson's staff at (202) 224-4751 or Claudine Brenner with Senator McCaskill's staff at (202) 224-2627 with any questions. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Ron Johnson
Chairman



Claire McCaskill
Ranking Member

The Honorable Ajit Pai
Ms. Vickie Robinson
September 15, 2017
Page 2

cc: The Honorable Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission

The Honorable Michael O'Rielly
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission

The Honorable Brendan Carr
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

November 21, 2017

The Honorable Ron Johnson
Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
United States Senate
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

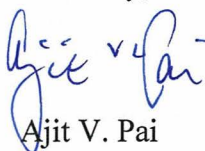
Dear Chairman Johnson:

Thank you for your letter requesting that the Federal Communications Commission and the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) initiate forensic audits of the top thirty Eligible Telecommunications Carriers in the Lifeline program.

I share your concerns about waste, fraud, and abuse and I greatly appreciate your leadership and input on the measures we should take to identify and remedy these problems in the Lifeline program. As Commission staff discussed recently with your staff, the FCC's Office of Managing Director and Wireline Competition Bureau have been working closely with USAC and have developed a forensic audit plan in response to your request. FCC staff will oversee USAC's work on this initiative to ensure these audits are conducted in a cost-effective manner and are completed expeditiously. My staff will also provide regular updates as the audits progress and will be available to respond to your questions regarding these important issues.

Thank you for your interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,


Ajit V. Pai

Chairman Johnson, thanks for your leadership on this issue and for your support more generally!



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

November 21, 2017

The Honorable Claire McCaskill
Ranking Member
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
United States Senate
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

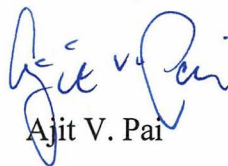
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Thank you for your interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,


Ajit V. Pai

P.S. Senator, I appreciated your letter and your leadership on this issue!