

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

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April 29, 2016

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

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

We write to follow up on an important issue related to the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) online public file, and ask that you take steps consistent with H.R. 4179, the Fair and Clear Campaign Transparency Act. The American people deserve more transparency and accountability in these online public files and making these files machine-readable and searchable would be an important step toward those goals.

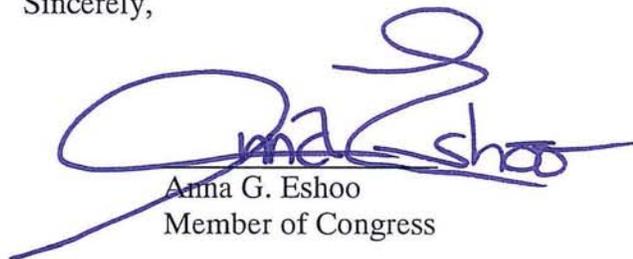
A bipartisan group of 179 Members of Congress showed their support for such action two weeks ago when they voted on the floor to support an amendment to another FCC-related bill that would have made it clear that the FCC can take action in this area. We are further encouraged by your specific commitment regarding making the public file machine readable when you spoke to the Democratic Caucus this week. We agree with you that the Commission can – and should – take appropriate action to make the online public file database accessible and usable.

With unprecedented spending from super PACs on broadcast advertisements during the current election cycle, this commonsense request is an essential first step to shedding sunlight on our current political system. We urge you to begin the process in the near term so the public can more easily use this important online tool that the Commission has already created.

Sincerely,



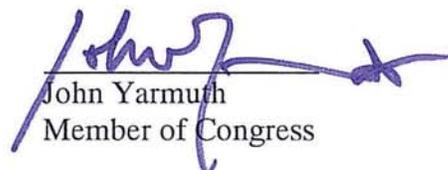
Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress



Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress



Ben Ray Lujan
Member of Congress



John Yarmuth
Member of Congress