The Honorable Heidi Heitkamp  
United States Senate  
110 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  

Dear Senator Heitkamp:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the Federal Communications Commission’s efforts to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America. As the son of two doctors in rural Kansas, I understand the critical role that broadband plays in providing patients in rural areas with high-quality health care services. And as Chairman, I’ve seen the potential of telemedicine firsthand, from a Veterans Affairs facility in rural Lecanto, Florida to Augusta Health in relatively rural Staunton, Virginia.

That’s why I have circulated a draft Report and Order to my colleagues that would take immediate action to increase funding for rural hospitals and health clinics by 43%, or $171 million per year. This significant increase—alongside future inflation adjustments and a mechanism to carry forward unused funding from previous years—will ensure that rural health care providers get the connectivity they need to better serve patients for years to come. I hope that my colleagues will support this order soon.

In addition, we must always ensure that scarce federal funds are being well spent. That’s why Commission staff are taking a hard look at eliminating any waste, fraud, and abuse within the RHC program. After all, every dollar misspent by an unscrupulous service provider is a dollar that can’t offset the costs that doctors and nurses incur serving some of the most vulnerable patients in America. I look forward to working with my colleagues to continue these efforts later this year.

I appreciate your continued interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai
The Honorable Mazie K. Hirono  
United States Senate  
330 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Hirono:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the Federal Communications Commission’s efforts to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America. As the son of two doctors in rural Kansas, I understand the critical role that broadband plays in providing patients in rural areas with high-quality health care services. And as Chairman, I’ve seen the potential of telemedicine firsthand, from a Veterans Affairs facility in rural Lecanto, Florida to Augusta Health in relatively rural Staunton, Virginia.

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Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai
The Honorable Bob Casey  
United States Senate  
393 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Casey:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the Federal Communications Commission's efforts to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America. As the son of two doctors in rural Kansas, I understand the critical role that broadband plays in providing patients in rural areas with high-quality health care services. And as Chairman, I've seen the potential of telemedicine firsthand, from a Veterans Affairs facility in rural Lecanto, Florida to Augusta Health in relatively rural Staunton, Virginia.

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Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai
The Honorable Sherrod Brown  
United States Senate  
713 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Brown:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the Federal Communications Commission’s efforts to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America. As the son of two doctors in rural Kansas, I understand the critical role that broadband plays in providing patients in rural areas with high-quality health care services. And as Chairman, I’ve seen the potential of telemedicine firsthand, from a Veterans Affairs facility in rural Lecanto, Florida to Augusta Health in relatively rural Staunton, Virginia.

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Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai
The Honorable Angus King  
United States Senate  
133 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator King:  

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the Federal Communications Commission’s efforts to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America. As the son of two doctors in rural Kansas, I understand the critical role that broadband plays in providing patients in rural areas with high-quality health care services. And as Chairman, I’ve seen the potential of telemedicine firsthand, from a Veterans Affairs facility in rural Lecanto, Florida to Augusta Health in relatively rural Staunton, Virginia.

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Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai

Ajit V. Pai
The Honorable Tina Smith  
United States Senate  
309 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Smith:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the Federal Communications Commission's efforts to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America. As the son of two doctors in rural Kansas, I understand the critical role that broadband plays in providing patients in rural areas with high-quality health care services. And as Chairman, I’ve seen the potential of telemedicine firsthand, from a Veterans Affairs facility in rural Lecanto, Florida to Augusta Health in relatively rural Staunton, Virginia.

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Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai

Ajit V. Pai
The Honorable Michael Bennet
United States Senate
261 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Bennet:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the Federal Communications Commission’s efforts to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America. As the son of two doctors in rural Kansas, I understand the critical role that broadband plays in providing patients in rural areas with high-quality health care services. And as Chairman, I’ve seen the potential of telemedicine firsthand, from a Veterans Affairs facility in rural Lecanto, Florida to Augusta Health in relatively rural Staunton, Virginia.

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Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai
Dear Senator Hoeven:

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Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai
The Honorable Dan Sullivan  
United States Senate  
702 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Sullivan:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the Federal Communications Commission’s efforts to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America. As the son of two doctors in rural Kansas, I understand the critical role that broadband plays in providing patients in rural areas with high-quality health care services. And as Chairman, I’ve seen the potential of telemedicine firsthand, from a Veterans Affairs facility in rural Lecanto, Florida to Augusta Health in relatively rural Staunton, Virginia.

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Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai

Ajit V. Pai
The Honorable Lisa Murkowski  
United States Senate  
709 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Murkowski:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the Federal Communications Commission’s efforts to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America. As the son of two doctors in rural Kansas, I understand the critical role that broadband plays in providing patients in rural areas with high-quality health care services. And as Chairman, I’ve seen the potential of telemedicine firsthand, from a Veterans Affairs facility in rural Lecanto, Florida to Augusta Health in relatively rural Staunton, Virginia.

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Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai

Ajit V. Pai
The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito  
United States Senate  
172 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Capito:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the Federal Communications Commission’s efforts to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America. As the son of two doctors in rural Kansas, I understand the critical role that broadband plays in providing patients in rural areas with high-quality health care services. And as Chairman, I’ve seen the potential of telemedicine firsthand, from a Veterans Affairs facility in rural Lecanto, Florida to Augusta Health in relatively rural Staunton, Virginia.

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Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai
The Honorable Susan Collins  
United States Senate  
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Collins:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the Federal Communications Commission’s efforts to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America. As the son of two doctors in rural Kansas, I understand the critical role that broadband plays in providing patients in rural areas with high-quality health care services. And as Chairman, I’ve seen the potential of telemedicine firsthand, from a Veterans Affairs facility in rural Lecanto, Florida to Augusta Health in relatively rural Staunton, Virginia.

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Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai
The Honorable Roy Blunt  
United States Senate  
260 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Blunt:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the Federal Communications Commission’s efforts to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America. As the son of two doctors in rural Kansas, I understand the critical role that broadband plays in providing patients in rural areas with high-quality health care services. And as Chairman, I’ve seen the potential of telemedicine firsthand, from a Veterans Affairs facility in rural Lecanto, Florida to Augusta Health in relatively rural Staunton, Virginia.

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Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai
June 15, 2018

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin
United States Senate
717 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Baldwin:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the Federal Communications Commission’s efforts to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America. As the son of two doctors in rural Kansas, I understand the critical role that broadband plays in providing patients in rural areas with high-quality health care services. And as Chairman, I’ve seen the potential of telemedicine firsthand, from a Veterans Affairs facility in rural Lecanto, Florida to Augusta Health in relatively rural Staunton, Virginia.

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Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai
Chairman
June 15, 2018

The Honorable Claire McCaskill  
United States Senate  
730 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator McCaskill:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the Federal Communications Commission's efforts to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America. As the son of two doctors in rural Kansas, I understand the critical role that broadband plays in providing patients in rural areas with high-quality health care services. And as Chairman, I've seen the potential of telemedicine firsthand, from a Veterans Affairs facility in rural Lecanto, Florida to Augusta Health in relatively rural Staunton, Virginia.

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Ajit V. Pai
The Honorable Thomas R. Carper  
United States Senate  
513 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  

Dear Senator Carper:  

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[Signature]
The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen  
United States Senate  
506 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  

Dear Senator Shaheen:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the Federal Communications Commission's efforts to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America. As the son of two doctors in rural Kansas, I understand the critical role that broadband plays in providing patients in rural areas with high-quality health care services. And as Chairman, I've seen the potential of telemedicine firsthand, from a Veterans Affairs facility in rural Lecanto, Florida to Augusta Health in relatively rural Staunton, Virginia.

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Ajit V. Pai

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The Honorable Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senate  
302 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Klobuchar:

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Ajit V. Pai
The Honorable Debbie Stabenow  
United States Senate  
731 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  

Dear Senator Stabenow:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the Federal Communications Commission’s efforts to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America. As the son of two doctors in rural Kansas, I understand the critical role that broadband plays in providing patients in rural areas with high-quality health care services. And as Chairman, I’ve seen the potential of telemedicine firsthand, from a Veterans Affairs facility in rural Lecanto, Florida to Augusta Health in relatively rural Staunton, Virginia.

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Ajit V. Pai
The Honorable Chris Van Hollen  
United States Senate  
B40C Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  

Dear Senator Van Hollen:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the Federal Communications Commission's efforts to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America. As the son of two doctors in rural Kansas, I understand the critical role that broadband plays in providing patients in rural areas with high-quality health care services. And as Chairman, I've seen the potential of telemedicine firsthand, from a Veterans Affairs facility in rural Lecanto, Florida to Augusta Health in relatively rural Staunton, Virginia.

That's why I have circulated a draft Report and Order to my colleagues that would take immediate action to increase funding for rural hospitals and health clinics by 43%, or $171 million per year. This significant increase—alongside future inflation adjustments and a mechanism to carry forward unused funding from previous years—will ensure that rural health care providers get the connectivity they need to better serve patients for years to come. I hope that my colleagues will support this order soon.

In addition, we must always ensure that scarce federal funds are being well spent. That's why Commission staff are taking a hard look at eliminating any waste, fraud, and abuse within the RHC program. After all, every dollar misspent by an unscrupulous service provider is a dollar that can't offset the costs that doctors and nurses incur serving some of the most vulnerable patients in America. I look forward to working with my colleagues to continue these efforts later this year.

I appreciate your continued interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai
The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
United States Senate  
437 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Leahy:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the Federal Communications Commission’s efforts to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America. As the son of two doctors in rural Kansas, I understand the critical role that broadband plays in providing patients in rural areas with high-quality health care services. And as Chairman, I’ve seen the potential of telemedicine firsthand, from a Veterans Affairs facility in rural Lecanto, Florida to Augusta Health in relatively rural Staunton, Virginia.

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Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai
The Honorable Jon Tester
United States Senate
311 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Tester:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the Federal Communications Commission’s efforts to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America. As the son of two doctors in rural Kansas, I understand the critical role that broadband plays in providing patients in rural areas with high-quality health care services. And as Chairman, I’ve seen the potential of telemedicine firsthand, from a Veterans Affairs facility in rural Lecanto, Florida to Augusta Health in relatively rural Staunton, Virginia.

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Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai
The Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand  
United States Senate  
478 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Gillibrand:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the Federal Communications Commission’s efforts to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America. As the son of two doctors in rural Kansas, I understand the critical role that broadband plays in providing patients in rural areas with high-quality health care services. And as Chairman, I’ve seen the potential of telemedicine firsthand, from a Veterans Affairs facility in rural Lecanto, Florida to Augusta Health in relatively rural Staunton, Virginia.

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Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai  

Ajit V. Pai
June 15, 2018

The Honorable Maggie Hassan
United States Senate
B85 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Hassan:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the Federal Communications Commission’s efforts to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America. As the son of two doctors in rural Kansas, I understand the critical role that broadband plays in providing patients in rural areas with high-quality health care services. And as Chairman, I’ve seen the potential of telemedicine firsthand, from a Veterans Affairs facility in rural Lecanto, Florida to Augusta Health in relatively rural Staunton, Virginia.

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Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai

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Register Number 018800

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

June 15, 2018

The Honorable Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senate
509 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cardin:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the Federal Communications Commission’s efforts to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America. As the son of two doctors in rural Kansas, I understand the critical role that broadband plays in providing patients in rural areas with high-quality health care services. And as Chairman, I’ve seen the potential of telemedicine firsthand, from a Veterans Affairs facility in rural Lecanto, Florida to Augusta Health in relatively rural Staunton, Virginia.

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Ajit V. Pai
Dear Senator Udall:

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Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai

Ajit V. Pai
The Honorable Doug Jones  
United States Senate  
326 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Jones:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the Federal Communications Commission's efforts to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America. As the son of two doctors in rural Kansas, I understand the critical role that broadband plays in providing patients in rural areas with high-quality health care services. And as Chairman, I've seen the potential of telemedicine firsthand, from a Veterans Affairs facility in rural Lecanto, Florida to Augusta Health in relatively rural Staunton, Virginia.

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Ajit V. Pai

Ajit V. Pai
The Honorable Joe Donnelly  
United States Senate  
720 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Donnelly:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the Federal Communications Commission’s efforts to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America. As the son of two doctors in rural Kansas, I understand the critical role that broadband plays in providing patients in rural areas with high-quality health care services. And as Chairman, I’ve seen the potential of telemedicine firsthand, from a Veterans Affairs facility in rural Lecanto, Florida to Augusta Health in relatively rural Staunton, Virginia.

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Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai

Ajit V. Pai
The Honorable Catherine Cortez Masto  
United States Senate  
B40A Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  

Dear Senator Cortez Masto:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the Federal Communications Commission’s efforts to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America. As the son of two doctors in rural Kansas, I understand the critical role that broadband plays in providing patients in rural areas with high-quality health care services. And as Chairman, I’ve seen the potential of telemedicine firsthand, from a Veterans Affairs facility in rural Lecanto, Florida to Augusta Health in relatively rural Staunton, Virginia.

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