

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 30, 2017

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We share your commitment to making investments in our nation's infrastructure that create good jobs and boost economic productivity.

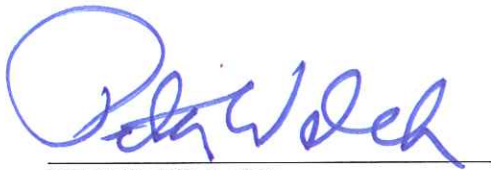
As you consider the parameters of your infrastructure proposal to Congress, we write to urge you to include investments that will bring the benefits of broadband connectivity to rural America. In the 21st Century, high-speed internet access is no longer a luxury amenity, but rather an essential service for homes and businesses in this interconnected world. No other technology has produced as much innovation, competition, and economic growth.

Unfortunately, rural Americans in our districts lack sufficient broadband infrastructure to take advantage of this explosion of technology and economic possibility. The digital divide between rural and urban America is significant.

Simply put, rural communities cannot attract and retain businesses and human resources if they are insufficiently connected. Broadband allows rural Americans to communicate with friends and families and access entertainment. It provides businesses access to global customers to reach and drive economic development. It facilitates agricultural efficiency for farmers, supplies students and teachers with unlimited access to educational materials, and ensures a timely response to health and safety emergencies by first responders.

We look forward to working with you and your administration to advance an infrastructure package that bridges America's digital divide by ensuring essential broadband infrastructure in rural areas of our country.

Sincerely,



PETER WELCH
Member of Congress



ADAM KINZINGER
Member of Congress



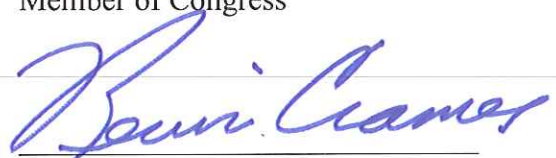
MARK POCAN
Member of Congress



ROBERT E. LATTA
Member of Congress



DAVID LOEBSACK
Member of Congress



KEVIN CRAMER
Member of Congress



JARED POLIS
Member of Congress



BARBARA COMSTOCK
Member of Congress



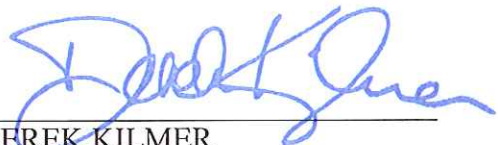
LARRY BUCSHON, M.D.
Member of Congress



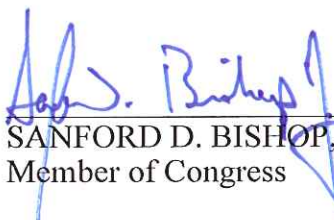
SEAN P. DUFFY
Member of Congress



RON KIND
Member of Congress



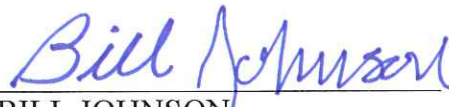
DEREK KILMER
Member of Congress



SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.
Member of Congress



RAÚL GRIJALVA
Member of Congress



BILL JOHNSON
Member of Congress



WALTER B. JONES
Member of Congress



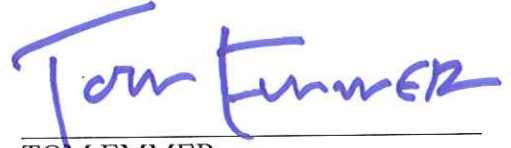
RICHARD HUDSON
Member of Congress



RICHARD NOLAN
Member of Congress



JAMES P. MCGOVERN
Member of Congress



TOM EMMER
Member of Congress



MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
Member of Congress



KRISTI NOEM
Member of Congress



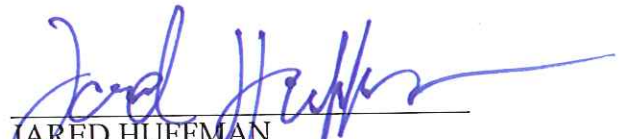
ERIC CRAWFORD
Member of Congress



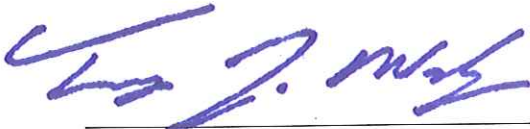
EVAN JENKINS
Member of Congress



CHELLIE PINGREE
Member of Congress



JARED HUFFMAN
Member of Congress



TIMOTHY J. WALZ
Member of Congress



PETER DEFAZIO
Member of Congress



DOUG LAMALFA
Member of Congress



CHERI BUSTOS
Member of Congress



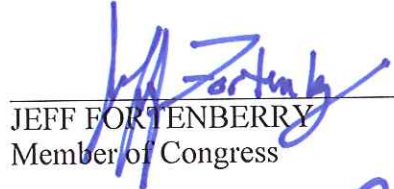
SAM GRAVES
Member of Congress



SCOTT TIPTON
Member of Congress



DAVID YOUNG
Member of Congress



JEFF FORTENBERRY
Member of Congress



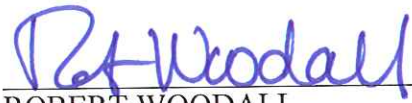
BLAINE LUETKEMEYER
Member of Congress



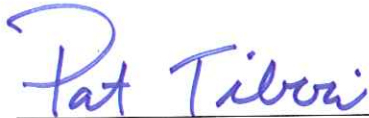
DOUG COLLINS
Member of Congress



EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER
Member of Congress



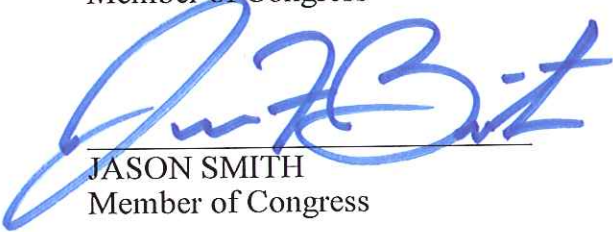
ROBERT WOODALL
Member of Congress



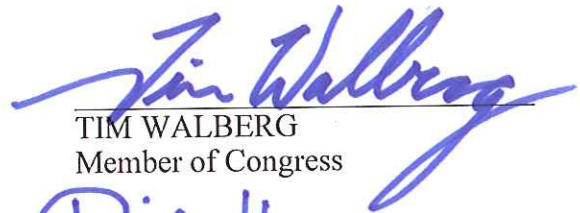
PAT TIBERI
Member of Congress



VICKY HARTZLER
Member of Congress



JASON SMITH
Member of Congress



TIM WALBERG
Member of Congress



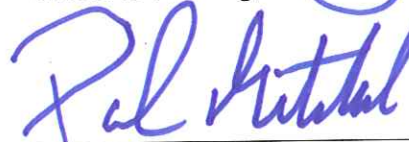
AUSTIN SCOTT
Member of Congress



BILL HUIZENGA
Member of Congress



DAVID G. VALADAO
Member of Congress



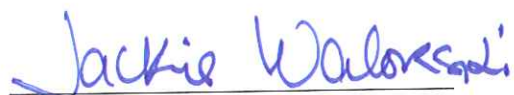
PAUL MITCHELL
Member of Congress



BRUCE WESTERMAN
Member of Congress



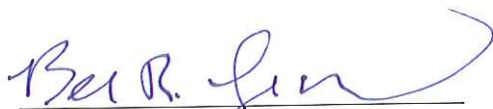
PAUL D. TONKO
Member of Congress



JACKIE WALORSKI
Member of Congress



ELISE STEFANIK
Member of Congress



BEN RAY LUJAN
Member of Congress



JOHN MOOLENAAR
Member of Congress



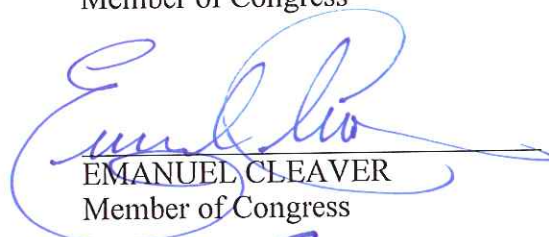
DON BACON
Member of Congress



BRUCE POLIQUIN
Member of Congress



MIKE BOST
Member of Congress



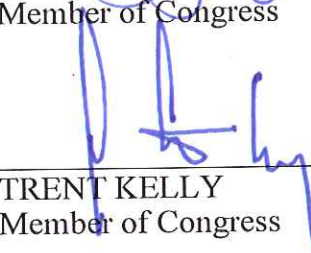
EMANUEL CLEAVER
Member of Congress



BILLY LONG
Member of Congress



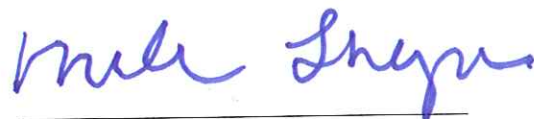
RALPH LEE ABRAHAM
Member of Congress



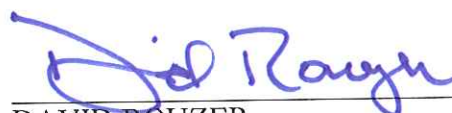
TRENT KELLY
Member of Congress



RICK ALLEN
Member of Congress



MIKE THOMPSON
Member of Congress



DAVID ROUZER
Member of Congress



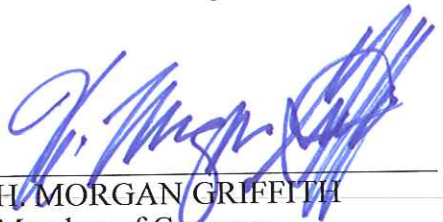
DAVID SCOTT
Member of Congress



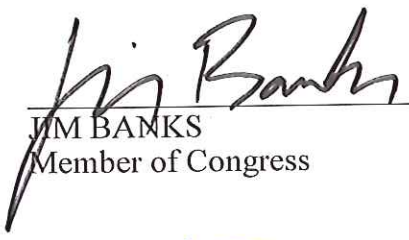
ED PERLMUTTER
Member of Congress


LUKE MESSER
Member of Congress


TODD ROKITA
Member of Congress


H. MORGAN GRIFFITH
Member of Congress


JODY HICE
Member of Congress


JIM BANKS
Member of Congress


DREW FERGUSON
Member of Congress


HAROLD ROGERS
Member of Congress