

**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

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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 21<sup>st</sup> 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



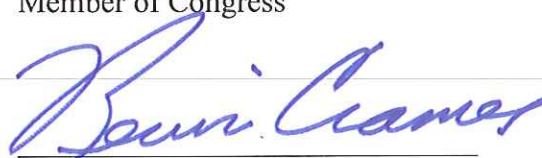
MARK POCAN  
Member of Congress



ROBERT E. LATTA  
Member of Congress



DAVID LOEBSACK  
Member of Congress



KEVIN CRAMER  
Member of Congress



JARED POLIS  
Member of Congress



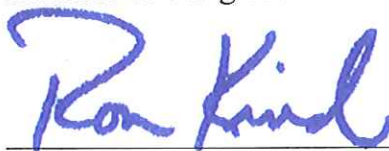
BARBARA COMSTOCK  
Member of Congress



LARRY BUCSHON, M.D.  
Member of Congress



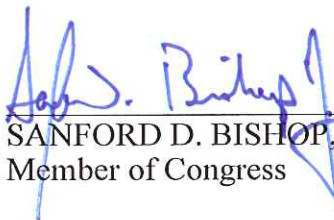
SEAN P. DUFFY  
Member of Congress



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



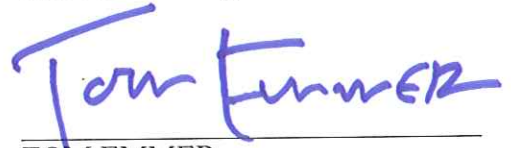
RICHARD HUDSON  
Member of Congress



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



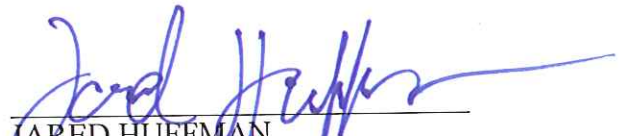
ERIC CRAWFORD  
Member of Congress



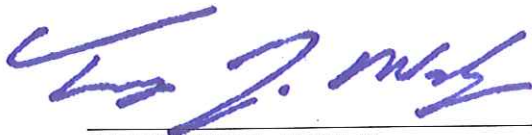
EVAN JENKINS  
Member of Congress



CHELLIE PINGREE  
Member of Congress



JARED HUFFMAN  
Member of Congress



TIMOTHY J. WALZ  
Member of Congress



PETER DEFAZIO  
Member of Congress



DOUG LAMALFA  
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CHERI BUSTOS  
Member of Congress



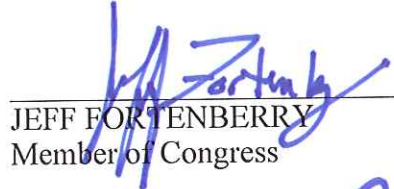
SAM GRAVES  
Member of Congress



SCOTT TIPTON  
Member of Congress



DAVID YOUNG  
Member of Congress



JEFF FORTENBERRY  
Member of Congress



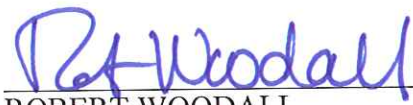
BLAINE LUETKEMEYER  
Member of Congress



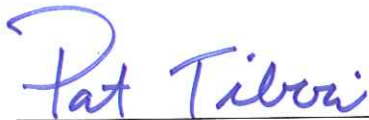
DOUG COLLINS  
Member of Congress



EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER  
Member of Congress



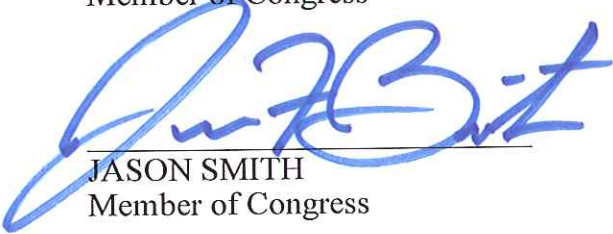
ROBERT WOODALL  
Member of Congress



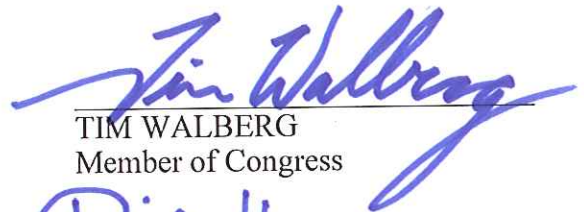
PAT TIBERI  
Member of Congress



VICKY HARTZLER  
Member of Congress



JASON SMITH  
Member of Congress



TIM WALBERG  
Member of Congress



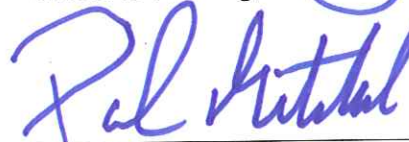
AUSTIN SCOTT  
Member of Congress



BILL HUIZENGA  
Member of Congress



DAVID G. VALADAO  
Member of Congress



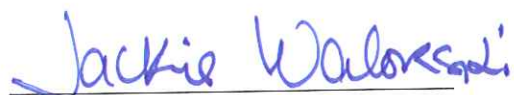
PAUL MITCHELL  
Member of Congress



BRUCE WESTERMAN  
Member of Congress



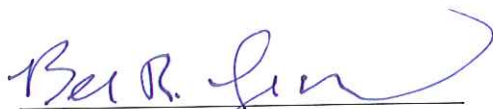
PAUL D. TONKO  
Member of Congress



JACKIE WALORSKI  
Member of Congress



ELISE STEFANIK  
Member of Congress



BEN RAY LUJAN  
Member of Congress



JOHN MOOLENAAR  
Member of Congress



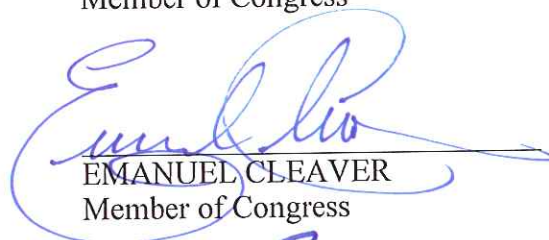
DON BACON  
Member of Congress



BRUCE POLIQUIN  
Member of Congress



MIKE BOST  
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EMANUEL CLEAVER  
Member of Congress



BILLY LONG  
Member of Congress



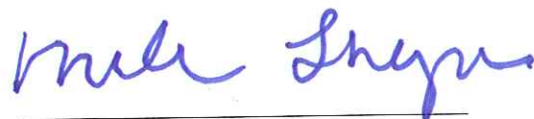
RALPH LEE ABRAHAM  
Member of Congress



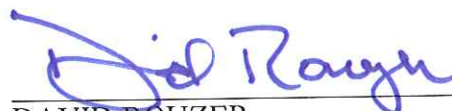
TRENT KELLY  
Member of Congress



RICK ALLEN  
Member of Congress



MIKE THOMPSON  
Member of Congress



DAVID ROUZER  
Member of Congress



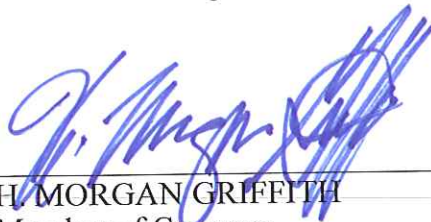
DAVID SCOTT  
Member of Congress



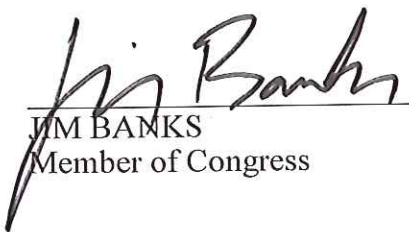
ED PERLMUTTER  
Member of Congress

  
LUKE MESSER  
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TODD ROKITA  
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H. MORGAN GRIFFITH  
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JODY HICE  
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JIM BANKS  
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DREW FERGUSON  
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HAROLD ROGERS  
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