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,

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Member of Congress

ADAM KINZINGER
Member of Congress

MARK POCAN
Member of Congress

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