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September 29, 2017

The Honorable John Thune
Chairman
Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
United States Senate SD-511
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Thune:

The Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council (MMTC) respectfully submits this letter in support of reconfirmation of the Honorable Ajit Pai as chairman of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

Chairman Pai has demonstrated, both as Chairman and previously as a Commissioner, that he is a vociferous advocate of closing the digital divide, empowering more Americans to get connected, and carefully crafting telecom law and policy that is inclusive of historically underrepresented groups, including multicultural, low-income, rural, and elderly Americans. From his work with fellow Commissioners Mignon Clyburn and Jessica Rosenworcel, it is clear that Chairman Pai is not hesitant to reach across the aisle to work together to do what is best for every American.

Among his top priorities as chairman were the chartering of the FCC's Advisory Committee on Diversity and Digital Empowerment (ACDDE), and the creation of the Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee (BDAC), both of which have prominent representation by MMTC and other diverse public interest groups. The chartering of the ACDDE is especially important because the FCC's original diversity committee failed to be rechartered under its previous leadership, leaving the Commission without this important committee voicing the concerns of millions of underrepresented groups for over four years.

It is clear that Chairman Pai demonstrates a strong willingness to consult diverse external advisory groups composed of subject matter experts who can help the FCC to ensure that all voices are heard and represented in telecommunications policy. It is without question that he is a strong leader who should be reconfirmed to chair the Federal Communications Commission.

Please do not hesitate to contact MMTC if you need additional information regarding our support of Chairman Pai's confirmation.

We appreciate the opportunity to contribute our voice to your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kim Keenan", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Kim Keenan
President and CEO
Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council

*Deceased