November 15, 2021

Senator Maria Cantwell
Chair
Senate Commerce Committee
United States Senate
511 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Roger Wicker
Ranking Member
Senate Commerce Committee
United States Senate
555 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairwoman Cantwell and Ranking Member Wicker,

On behalf of the Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition, the National Digital Inclusion Alliance (NDIA), and the undersigned organizations, we write to express our strong support for Jessica Rosenworcel to serve as the Chair of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), Gigi Sohn to serve as a Commissioner on the FCC, and Alan Davidson to serve as the Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Administrator of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA).

The SHLB Coalition is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit advocacy organization that strives to close the digital divide by promoting open, affordable, high-quality broadband for anchor institutions and their communities. SHLB has over 300 members from across the US, including hundreds of commercial and nonprofit organizations who support our mission.

NDIA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and advances digital equity by supporting community programs and equipping policymakers to act. Working collaboratively with digital inclusion practitioners, NDIA advocates for broadband access, tech devices, digital skills training, and tech support. NDIA currently represents 625 affiliate organizations located in 46 states.

We urge the Senate Commerce Committee to advance the nomination of Rosenworcel for an additional term without delay. Her impressive range of work and extensive experience as a commissioner on the FCC makes her well suited to serve as its chair. She is committed to closing the “homework gap” and has overseen the rollout and implementation of several critical federal programs that make technology more accessible and affordable for Americans, including the Emergency Broadband Benefit program and the Emergency Connectivity Fund — the most significant federal programs yet to address internet affordability. By taking a lead role on spectrum policy reforms and expanding affordable broadband access to households, schools, libraries, and healthcare providers, Rosenworcel has demonstrated outstanding leadership as acting FCC Chair.
We also urge the Senate Commerce Committee to advance the nomination of Sohn for Commissioner on the FCC without delay. Sohn has been a long-time advocate for internet freedom, consumer protection, and digital inclusivity. Though steadfast in her principles, she has a deep and realistic understanding of the digital marketplace and its practical and economic challenges. In turn, she recognizes the need to work with others from all sides of every issue to achieve a more open, affordable, and privacy-protective communications landscape. Accordingly, she is well-respected by technology policy stakeholders on both sides of the political aisle as well as by for-profit and nonprofit institutions. Sohn possesses an unmatched level of knowledge, leadership, and experience in her field, making her extremely well qualified to serve as an FCC Commissioner.

Finally, we urge the Senate Commerce Committee to advance the nomination of Davidson for Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Administrator of NTIA without delay. Given his vast expertise in technology policy and digital access issues, Davidson will be a steady and effective leader at the NTIA. He has worked in policy areas such as free expression, content regulation, encryption, and copyright, while maintaining a commitment to the public interest. His experience and skills make him well suited for his prospective role at the NTIA.

The FCC and NTIA have and will continue to play an extremely important role in digital policy — particularly given the passing of the Infrastructure Expansion Act of 2021 and the growing influx of federal money for broadband and digital inclusion programs. As such, strong and effective leadership at the FCC and NTIA is crucial to ensuring a more efficient and equitable digital future for America. We thus urge the Senate Commerce Committee to promptly confirm the nominations of Rosenworcel for FCC Chair, Sohn for FCC Commissioner, and Davidson for NTIA Assistant Secretary of Commerce and NTIA Administrator.

Thank you,

Valerie Oliver
Alaska State Library

Mike Wassenaar
Alliance for Community Media

Alan Inouye
American Library Association

ROBERT W STEWART
Asbury Park Free Public Library

Jason Hardebeck
Baltimore City Mayor’s Office

Andrew Jay Schwartzman
Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Sunne Wright McPeak  
California Emerging Technology Fund  

TERI LAWRENCE  
Educational Professional Services

Stephen D Rau  
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Shumonte Cooper  
Christ is Relief Inc  

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City of San Jose  

Mary Jo Sagnella  
E-RATE ONLINE

Dave Sevick  
Computer Reach  

John Chrastka  
EveryLibrary Institute

Tom Reid  
Connecting Appalachia  

Mai Moore  
EYEJ: Empowering Youth, Exploring Justice

Bill Callahan  
Connect Your Community Institute  

Davis Park  
Front Porch

Christine Fox  
CoSN  

Burt Lum  
Hawaii Broadband Hui

Kimberly Friends  
CSM Consulting, Inc.  

Shawn Daugherty  
Human-I-T

Erin Carr-Jordan  
Digital Equity Institute  

W LAZONE GRAYS  
IBSA, Inc.

Pat Millen  
E2D, Inc.  

Erin Mote  
InnovateEDU

Hank Lawrence  
Educational Consulting Associates  

Christopher Mitchell  
Institute for Local Self-Reliance
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organization/Role</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gwin Grimes</td>
<td>Jeff Davis County Library</td>
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<td>Carrie Coogan</td>
<td>Kansas City Public Library</td>
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<td>Michelle Harati</td>
<td>Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)</td>
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<td>Sulaiman Kenyatta</td>
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<tr>
<td>Josh Chisom</td>
<td>Lucky Thirteen Design &amp; Consulting LLC</td>
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<td>Brandon Forester</td>
<td>MediaJustice</td>
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<td>Joseph Sawasky</td>
<td>Merit Network, Michigan</td>
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<td>Katherine Messier</td>
<td>Mobile Beacon</td>
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<td>Gina Dircks</td>
<td>Mobile Citizen, a Voqal Project</td>
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<td>Nishal Mohan</td>
<td>mohuman</td>
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<td>Mariel Triggs</td>
<td>MuralNet</td>
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<td>Susan Corbett</td>
<td>National Digital Equity Center</td>
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<td>Angela Siefer</td>
<td>National Digital Inclusion Alliance</td>
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<td>Amanda Bergson-Shilcock</td>
<td>National Skills Coalition</td>
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<td>Tracy Olson</td>
<td>NC Telehealth Network Association</td>
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<td>Amy Sample Ward</td>
<td>NTEN</td>
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<td>Burton B. Cohen</td>
<td>Office of Consumer Counsel</td>
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<td>Amy Philipson</td>
<td>Pacific Northwest Gigapop</td>
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<td>Barry Glicklich</td>
<td>Partners Bridging the Digital Divide</td>
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<td>Jenna Leventoff</td>
<td>Public Knowledge</td>
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<td>Marci L. White</td>
<td>Redbud Telecom Consulting</td>
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<td>Jesse Bradley</td>
<td>Right Here, Right Now Project</td>
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<td>John Windhausen</td>
<td>Schools, Health &amp; Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition</td>
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<td>Clayton Banks</td>
<td>Silicon Harlem</td>
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<td>Jeannene Hurley</td>
<td>Sound E-rate, Inc.</td>
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<td>Coree Kelly</td>
<td>Southern Oregon Education Service District</td>
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With Digital Equity, We All Win
Julia Fallon
State Educational Technology Directors Association (SETDA)

Andy Stutzman
Technology Learning Collaborative

JJ McGrath
Texoma Communications, LLC

Samantha Schartman
The Marconi Society

Robert Plymale
Thundercloud, Inc.

Susan Benton
Urban Libraries Council

Roger Timmerman
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