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May 12, 2020

The Honorable Roger Wicker
U.S. Senator
555 Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Wicker:

The Mississippi Economic Council appreciates your consistent and strong advocacy for rural communities throughout your years in public service. We also applaud your leadership and the decisive actions that have been taken during the COVID-19 crisis.

Unfortunately, this pandemic has brought to light the number of Americans that have minimal access to broadband services. As commerce and consumer demands are changing, it is extremely vital we look for ways to better connect our rural communities.

During this health crisis, many communication companies have stepped up to temporarily provide services. However, much work still needs to be done to shrink the digital divide.

Closing the broadband gap has strong, bi-partisan support. There is a tremendous opportunity for Congress and the Administration to ensure all Americans can access the internet wherever they live and work. This can be accomplished within the regulatory framework that has encouraged the global-leading levels of investment and innovation in our communications networks.

An investment on broadband infrastructure improves economic opportunities, educational advancement, and better access to healthcare for rural Mississippians. MEC supports your efforts and looks forward to working with you to ensure we come out of this crisis stronger and better prepared.

Sincerely,

Scott Waller
President & CEO