

## Silicon Harlem Comments Concerning Internet Adoption and Digital Equity

To the U.S. House Committee on Energy and Commerce Chairman Frank Pallone, Jr., and Ranking Member Greg Walden Communications and Technology Subcommittee Chairman Michael F. Doyle and Ranking Member Robert E. Latta

Submitted for the Hearing on Internet Adoption and Digital Equity

January 29, 2020

The Internet is critical to ensuring there is parity amongst our zip codes. The research has proven that access to broadband and increasing digital literacy, results in increasing household income. This viable reality is an opportunity to ensure marginalized communities embrace technology and innovation as a sustainable economic engine. Increasing digital literacy, internet adoption, and more participation in the digital economy will close the homework gap, job gap, health gap, and economic gap. It is no longer a luxury to have broadband, it is a necessity.

We encourage you to support Internet Adoption and Digital Equity for all. In my neighborhood of Harlem, there are almost 40% of our residents that do not have broadband in the home. This is a crisis, but it is a crisis we can all solve. Everyone needs a connection!

Sincerely,

Jaylor Banka

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