



May 12, 2023

Alan Davidson
Administrator
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTI)
1401 Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20230

Re: Development of a National Spectrum Strategy, Docket No. 230308–0068

Dear Mr. Davidson,

The National Hispanic Council on Aging (NHCOA) supports the development of a National Spectrum Strategy and making more spectrum available for licensed use. Access to reliable, high-speed internet is integral to uplifting communities. Communities without accessible and reliable internet are left at a disadvantage in regards to health, education, communication and other key matters. There is a wide digital divide in the United States, with many older adults, immigrant families, rural communities and other underserved segments of the population not having access to technology that could enrich their lives.

Wireless internet is a vital tool in closing that digital divide. Many families use wireless internet options—like connecting to the internet via smartphone—because of its mobility, affordability, and flexibility. 25 percent of Latino adults solely use their smartphones for broadband internet access. As a community that relies heavily on wireless, Latinos will be among the most impacted by network congestion and reliability issues if spectrum access cannot meet the demand.

In order to meet this demand, it is important that more spectrum be made available for licensed use. Having reliable cell phone service is critical for our older adult communities; accessing telehealth and services and keeping in touch with family is vital. We want to close the digital divide and user underserved communities into the digital era—making more spectrum available for licensed use can play a role in achieving this goal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yanira Cruz", is written over a thin red horizontal line.

Yanira Cruz, MPH, DrPH
President & CEO