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September 6, 2023

U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20010

Dear Senator:

On behalf of our 3 million members and the students they serve, I urge you to VOTE YES on the nomination of Anna Gomez as Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Commissioner. Votes on this issue may be included in NEA's report card for the 118th Congress.

Ms. Gomez has the experience and deep understanding of the telecommunications issues, policies, and programs of particular concern to students and educators. Specifically, we support preservation and enhancement of the E-Rate program, which provides deep discounts to schools and libraries on broadband services and Wi-Fi services. We also support ongoing efforts to address the digital divide through the Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) and Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), and using E-Rate to support Wi-Fi on school buses.

In testimony before the Senate Commerce Committee on June 22, Ms. Gomez used her opening statement to stress her commitment to ensuring reliable, affordable broadband Internet access for every American. "I have experienced the fear of not being able to afford a telephone bill," she said. "I know what it means to risk the loss of connection. Ensuring that everyone in rural tribal, suburban, and urban communities can get and stay connected is critical to next century success for us all."

Later, in response to a question from Senator Markey, Ms. Gomez said, "The E-Rate has done much good in connecting schools and libraries. And if confirmed, I look forward to delving into the program and how best to benefit students..."

Please VOTE YES on Anna Gomez for FCC Commissioner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marc Egan", is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Marc Egan
Director of Government Relations
National Education Association