



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

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EUREKA, CALIFORNIA 95501 PHONE: (707) 476-2390

April 14, 2020

Via Email

President Marybel Batjer,
Commissioner Liane Randolph,
Commissioner Martha Guzman Aceves,
Commissioner Cliff Rechtschaffen,
Commissioner Genevieve Shiroma,

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California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, California 94102

Re: **Support for Resolution T-17690:** Approving Supplemental Funding for the Grant Application of the Karuk Tribe (U-7235-C), from the California Advanced Services Fund for \$10,820,150 requested for the Klamath River Rural Broadband Initiative Project (KRRBI).
Dear President Batjer and Commissioners:

The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors would like to express our support for the Karuk Tribe's request for additional funding for their middle mile and last mile project--Resolution T-17690 currently scheduled for your May 7, 2020 agenda.

This proposed project will provide much needed connectivity for our region's most remote Tribal communities. In addition to the increased funding, we also support the Karuk Tribe's request for a waiver of program rules to provide cash flow necessary for successful completion. This project is critical to providing equity and inclusion to Tribal members in the digital age. Successful deployment will lead to better economic development and educational opportunities and increased access to health care. In addition, this project will improve emergency services and public safety in an area of the region that has been designated by CalFire as "Communities at Risk" due to increased occurrences of climate-related wildfires.

We sincerely hope you will look favorably on this important application.
Sincerely,

Estelle Fennell, Chair
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

cc. Eric Cutright, IT Director, Karuk Tribe ecutright@karuk.us
Connie Stewart, CCRP ces54@humboldt.edu