

Statement of Representative Anna G. Eshoo
House Committee on Energy and Commerce
Full Committee Markup of H.R. 2666, *No Rate Regulation of Broadband Internet Access Act*; and H.R. 4725, *Common Sense Savings Act of 2016*.
2123 Rayburn House Office Building
March 14, 2016

Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman. I'm disappointed the full Committee has chosen to hold this markup today, particularly after failing to reach a bipartisan, commonsense agreement on H.R. 2666, *No Rate Regulation of Broadband Internet Access*.

My position on H.R. 2666 has been clear from the beginning, both during January's legislative hearing, and in last month's Subcommittee markup. I do not support the FCC setting the monthly recurring rate that consumers pay for broadband Internet access service. This position is consistent with what Representative Kinzinger and Ranking Member Walden have stated are the intended goals of the legislation.

Instead of building on this common ground, the Majority has failed to address my concerns that this bill, in its current form, could compromise the FCC's authority to enforce critical consumer protections. These include protections against truth in billing practices and discriminatory data caps; ensuring broadband availability through USF and E-Rate; the authority to address rate-related issues in merger reviews; and ensuring enforcement against paid prioritization, among others.

One of the FCC's most fundamental roles is to protect consumers, which is why I cannot support H.R. 2666 in its current form. I will once again offer an amendment that codifies the forbearance approach used in the FCC's Open Internet Order, and I hope my colleagues will support this commonsense fix to achieve the bill's stated goals.

I'm also deeply concerned that the Committee has chosen to consider H.R. 4725, the so-called "*Common Sense Savings Act of 2016*." This partisan bill was introduced just three days ago and is yet another attempt by the Majority to weaken proven public health programs in the Affordable Care Act by repealing the Prevention and Public Health Fund.

The Prevention Fund is an essential investment in our public health and reduces our national long-term health costs. California has already invested over \$195 million dollars through the Fund into evidence-based, community prevention programs. These investments are working to reduce the leading causes of disease, disability, and death. H.R. 4725 irresponsibly repeals the Prevention Fund, ignoring the fact that prevention saves lives and money. I strongly oppose H.R. 4725 and I urge my colleagues to vote against this misguided attack on health reform.