

Committee on Energy and Commerce
Opening Statement as Prepared for Delivery
of
Subcommittee on Communications and Technology Chairman Mike Doyle

Markup of 12 Bills

November 17, 2021

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for including the two bills we recently moved through the Communications and Technology Subcommittee.

These bipartisan initiatives, the Spectrum Coordination Act and the Data Mapping to Save Moms' Lives Act, will improve our broadband networks, and help ensure these networks lead to better health outcomes for our constituents.

As I said previously, these consensus bills will further the important work this committee has been undertaking on broadband access and adoption.

I'd like to thank Congressman Butterfield for his focus on maternal health and Congressman Bilirakis for his continued efforts on both bills before us today.

The bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act the President signed into law this week will put \$65 billion towards broadband connectivity and adoption.

I was proud to support this legislation as it will not only help low-income residents of Pittsburgh afford broadband service, but will also help residents in my colleagues' districts – Republicans and Democrats – by providing financial means to support deployment to areas that the private sector has not adequately served.

It is the policies within this bill that will finally put us on the path to eliminating the digital divide.

And with this investment, it is even more important we foster collaboration between the agencies that will be implementing these programs and gather better data to understand how connectivity affects health outcomes.

While we have more to do on spectrum allocation policy, I am hopeful that with the infrastructure package now being signed into law, and by building on the bipartisan effort we're advancing today, we can have increased collaboration in this committee on spectrum policies going forward.

Thank you again, Mr. Chairman, as well as to colleagues Mr. Butterfield and Mr. Bilirakis for their communications bills today.

November 17, 2021

Page 2

I look forward to their passage by the full House.

I yield back.