

**Opening Statement of Republican Leader Robert E. Latta
Subcommittee on Communications and Technology
“Full Committee Markup on 2 Bills”
November 17, 2021**

As Prepared for Delivery

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and welcome to today’s markup which includes two bipartisan bills in the Communications and Technology space.

I am pleased to see that these bills went through regular order, which is how we should always operate in E&C. I hope we can continue this process moving forward so that we can return to the bipartisan spirit of the Communications and Technology Subcommittee and start legislating again.

Today, we will be considering H.R. 2501, Mr. Bilirakis’ Spectrum Coordination Act, and H.R. 1218, Mr. Butterfield’s Data Mapping to Save Moms Lives Act.

The Spectrum Coordination Act will strengthen interagency coordination between the National Telecommunications and Information Administration and the Federal Communications Commission on spectrum policy decisions by requiring the agencies to update their Memorandum of Understanding to include processes to resolve spectrum disputes.

As we have seen with recent events surrounding mobile deployment in the C-Band spectrum, Federal agencies must improve their communication and share necessary information with all stakeholders early in the spectrum auction process rather than go to the press with baseless, fear-mongering claims.

H.R. 2501 is a great first step in addressing these challenges and avoiding these types of public disputes. In addition, I hope that the Communications and Technology Subcommittee will start having oversight hearings of these important issues in the near future.

We are also considering Mr. Butterfield's Data Mapping to Save Moms Lives Act, which would direct the FCC to work with the CDC to incorporate publicly available data on maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity into its existing Mapping Broadband Health in America tool.

Both of these bills benefited from bipartisan discussions and regular order, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting them today.

Thank you, and I yield back.