

**Opening Statement Chairman Robert E. Latta  
Energy and Commerce Committee Markup on 6 Bills  
July 27, 2023  
(As Prepared for Delivery)**

Good morning. Today we are considering four bipartisan pieces of legislation from the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.

Over the last several months, the subcommittee has worked to reauthorize – for the first time in over 30 years – the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, or NTIA. Our steadfast work will provide the agency with new tools and direction to carry out its 21<sup>st</sup> Century mission in connecting unserved and underserved communities across America.

In May, the subcommittee held an oversight hearing with NTIA Administrator Alan Davidson to

receive an update on NTIA's work and hear his perspective on draft legislation. That testimony informed the bipartisan bills we are considering today.

I'm pleased to have introduced legislation, H.R. 4510, the NTIA Reauthorization Act, that would modernize NTIA's mission, and codify several key offices within the NTIA, including the Office of Spectrum Management, the Office of Public Safety Communications, the Office of International Affairs, and the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences. It would also reinforce NTIA's role in cybersecurity policy by codifying and renaming the Office of Policy Development and Cybersecurity.

I want to thank my colleagues across the Committee for their work on the important initiatives included in this legislation. With our work, we will ensure the NTIA more effectively coordinates federal broadband and manages federal spectrum.

The Committee is also considering H.R. 3369, the Artificial Intelligence Accountability Act, which would direct NTIA to conduct a study on accountability measures for AI Systems used by communications networks, and H.R. 3385, which will study the feasibility of a trans-Atlantic submarine cable that could provide national security benefits to the United States.

I want to thank the minority for working with us in a bipartisan fashion, and I look forward to advancing these bills for House consideration.