

**Statement of Representative Anna G. Eshoo**  
House Committee on Energy and Commerce  
Subcommittee on Communications and Technology  
Markup of H.R. 2566 and H.R. 2669  
2322 Rayburn House Office Building  
September 12, 2016

Today the Communications and Technology Subcommittee begins consideration of two bills with broad bipartisan support. These bills address real problems that Members of the subcommittee hear about regularly from our constituents. This is the best kind of work the subcommittee can do and I'm glad we're taking action to move these bills.

First, the subcommittee will consider H.R. 2566, the *Improving Rural Call Quality and Reliability Act of 2015* and a substitute amendment. This bill will help address call completion problems that have been plaguing rural America for a number of years. We heard excellent testimony during the subcommittee's legislative hearing on this issue on September 8<sup>th</sup> about the toll these problems have taken on rural America and on local telephone providers.

The bill is simple. It requires intermediate providers to register with the FCC and abide by minimum service quality standards. Bringing more transparency to this part of the telephone network was an important theme we heard during the subcommittee's legislative hearing. The substitute amendment will make further refinements and importantly will bring the bill in line with what was reported out of the Senate Commerce Committee on June 29<sup>th</sup>. I look forward to advancing this legislation to the full committee and ultimately passing it so we can put an end to rural call completion problems.

Finally the subcommittee will consider H.R. 2669, the *Anti-Spoofing Act of 2015*. I'm pleased to be a cosponsor of this important legislation which aims to limit the number of fraudulent calls and text messages consumers receive. I hear consistently from frustrated constituents who are fed up with the constant barrage of unwanted calls and text messages. Too often these calls and text messages are designed to scam consumers. The practice of Caller ID spoofing allows scammers to hide the true source of these calls, preventing consumers from blocking them.

The *Anti-Spoofing Act of 2015* extends the current prohibition on scam Caller ID spoofing to callers located outside of the United States. It also updates the law to include text messages. We are still working on further refinements to this bill but I'm prepared to move forward today and consider those changes when this bill is before the full committee.

Today's work shows the importance of bipartisan cooperation. When we come together we can address issues that really matter to the American people. I thank Chairman Walden for putting these bills on the agenda.

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