

Additional Questions for the Record

The Honorable Gus Bilirakis

- 1. An Accenture report concluded that municipalities con attract investment across industries by facilitation 5G infrastructure. As you mention in your testimony, a handful of states, including Florida, have taken action to quicken 5G deployment. Have these states begun to see that benefits of their actions in telecom operator investments?
 - a. Is that any state action that specifically stand out as a model that we should consider for federal action?

In 2017, nearly two dozen bills were either enacted or introduced in state legislatures that would remove regulatory barriers, reduce delays, and rationalize fees for wireless broadband deployment. As more states enact sound, pro-investment legislation, the pace of 5G deployment will continue to speed up. WIA members report that states with streamlined and expedited siting policies will be at or near the top of the list for the rollout of 5G networks.

For example, AT&T plans to launch 5G Evolution in parts of Minneapolis in the coming months, including areas near the host stadium for the Super Bowl. Minnesota recently enacted a 5G bill that was supported by the wireless industry. As is evident in states across the country, pro-investment policies will attract greater, and faster, investment.

These bills enacted by states promote responsible deployment, creating height limits and other policies incentivizing deployment in specifics areas, including the right-of-way and on existing infrastructure. Specifically, helpful state laws would provide timelines and deadlines for local review of wireless facility application. It would also prohibit municipalities from instituting a moratorium on new wireless facilities and charging review fees not required for other types of commercial development. These provisions promote responsible deployment and will help unleash the potential of 5G in communities across the country. WIA fully expects that states that enact supportive legislation will see greater investment in wireless broadband networks that will benefits their citizens and enhance economic growth.