

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4813

To direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study to evaluate the role of unlicensed spectrum in offloading broadband traffic, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 17, 2018

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study to evaluate the role of unlicensed spectrum in offloading broadband traffic, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Wireless Internet  
5       Focus on Innovation in Spectrum Technology for Unli-  
6       censed Deployment Act” or the “WIFI STUDY Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. GAO STUDY ON THE ROLE OF UNLICENSED SPEC-**  
2 **TRUM IN OFFLOADING BROADBAND TRAFFIC.**

3 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 60 days after the  
4 date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General  
5 of the United States shall initiate a study of—

6 (1) the role that unlicensed spectrum plays in  
7 the development of the proliferation of Internet-con-  
8 nected devices;

9 (2) the role of unlicensed spectrum in managing  
10 Internet protocol traffic on licensed wireless or other  
11 broadband networks;

12 (3) the economic benefits to providers and sub-  
13 scribers that WiFi provides in assisting with Inter-  
14 net traffic management; and

15 (4) the potential avenues for, and barriers to,  
16 broad deployment of gigabit WiFi service in spec-  
17 trum bands below 6 gigahertz at a scale that allows  
18 for rapid expanded use of new consumer devices.

19 (b) **REPORT.**—Not later than 18 months after initi-  
20 ating the study required by subsection (a), the Comp-  
21 troller General shall submit to the Committee on Energy  
22 and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the  
23 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of  
24 the Senate a report on the results of the study that sets

- 1 forth the findings, conclusions, and recommendations, if
- 2 any, of the study.

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