

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY

“Defending America’s Wireless Leadership”

March 10, 2023

Questions for the Record from Representative Eshoo to James Assey

In their March 5, 2023 letter, the Department of Commerce and Department of Defense express support for Title I of the Spectrum Auction Reauthorization Act. Among other things, Title I addresses the commercial licensing of 3.1 to 3.45 GHz and requiring any decision on the band “to be contingent on the outcome of an ongoing and thorough study examining the potential impact on critical Federal missions.”

As I testified on March 10, NCTA supports the continued authority of the FCC to conduct spectrum auctions. Further, NCTA supports a balanced spectrum policy, which takes an all-of-the-above approach to spectrum licensing, including exclusive licensed spectrum, shared licensed spectrum, and unlicensed spectrum. NCTA was pleased to see Title I of the Spectrum Auction Reauthorization Act support that balance, and not put the thumb on the scale for any particular licensing regime.

Finally, NCTA participates in the Department of Defense’s “Partnering on Advancing Trusted and Holistic Spectrum Solutions (PATHSS) Task Group” and supports the efforts of this public-private working group to finalize its recommendations for the 3.1 GHz band. NCTA believes that the PATHSS process has allowed for a helpful dialogue between industry and the Department of Defense and could be a good model for other government encumbered bands going forward.