

MEMORANDUM 7/10/2023

To: Members, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology

From: Majority Staff

Re: Communications and Technology Subcommittee Markup

I. INTRODUCTION

On Wednesday, July 12, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. (ET), the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology will hold a markup in 2123 Rayburn House Office Building to consider the following legislation:

- H.R. 4510, NTIA Reauthorization Act of 2023 (Latta)
- H.R. 3430, Spectrum Relocation Enhancement Act (Matsui)
- H.R. 3385, Diaspora Link Act (Plaskett)
- H.R. 3369, AI Accountability Act (Harder)
- H.R. 4511, Public Safety Communications Act (Cammack)
- H.R. 4506, TEAM TELECOM Act (Johnson)
- H.R. 4512, Digital Economy Cybersecurity Advisory Act (Pfluger)
- H.R. 4505, PLAN For Broadband Act (Walberg)
- H.R. 4513, Commerce Spectrum Coordination Act of 2023 (Griffith)
- H.R. 4504, Novel, Advanced, Spectrum and Communications Technology Networks Promotion Act (Guthrie)
- H.R. 3431, Spectrum Coexistence Act (Matsui)

II. BACKGROUND ON LEGISLATION

1. H.R. 4510, the NTIA Reauthorization Act of 2023

H.R. 4510 is led by Chairman Robert E. Latta (R-OH) and Ranking Member Doris Matsui (D-CA). H.R. 4510 would reauthorize the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) and modernize the mission of the agency. Title I of the bill would raise the title of the Assistant Secretary to Under Secretary, codify the Deputy Under Secretary and establish duties for the position, and eliminate unnecessary reporting requirements and consolidate current reporting requirements into an annual report.

Title II of H.R. 4510 would codify the Office of Spectrum Management within NTIA and take several steps to improve management and coordination of federal spectrum use. Title II of the bill would establish federal coordination procedures relating to a proposed spectrum action; provide direction to NTIA to develop common models, methodologies, and inputs to inform

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federal spectrum management decisions; codify the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences; codify the Commerce Spectrum Management Advisory Committee (CSMAC); establish an Incumbent Informing Capability (IIC) to support NTIA's federal spectrum management mission; and direct NTIA to convene a working group to establish voluntary receiver criteria, ratings, or other measures in bands where Federal entities are primary or co-primary users.

Title III of H.R. 4510 would direct the NTIA to develop a National Strategy to Close the digital divide and a plan to implement that strategy. This legislation is based on recommendations from the Government Accountability Office that a national strategy is needed to manage and coordinate broadband programs across the federal government.

Title IV of H.R. 4510 would codify the Office of Policy Development and Cybersecurity within NTIA and take several steps to improve NTIA's communications and information policy development mission. Title IV would direct NTIA to carry out an Information and Communication Technology (ICT) supply chain security report and strategy; establish a Digital Economy Cybersecurity Board of Advisors to provide the Office with recommendations for implementation by NTIA or that NTIA could recommend for implementation by other entities regarding communications cybersecurity policies; develop and conduct a cybersecurity literacy campaign; submit a report examining the cybersecurity of mobile service networks; and conduct outreach and provide technical assistance to small communications networks providers regarding Open RAN compatible technology.

Title V of H.R. 4510 would codify the Office of Public Safety Communications within NTIA and provide direction on the duties of the Office.

Title VI of H.R. 4510 would codify the Office of International Affairs within NTIA and provide direction on the duties of the Office. Title VI also would establish an interagency review process to review applications with foreign ownership that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has referred for national security and law enforcement implications in a timely and transparent manner. Title VI would direct NTIA to develop and issue procedures for such reviews.

2. H.R. 3430, Spectrum Relocation Enhancement Act

H.R. 3430 is led by Ranking Member Doris Matsui (D-CA) and Representative Randy Weber (R-TX). This bill would amend which relocation or sharing costs are eligible for reimbursement from the Spectrum Relocation Fund (SRF), how federal agencies receive payments from the SRF, and increase NTIA oversight of activities carried out using SRF funds.

3. H.R. 3369, Artificial Intelligence Accountability (AI Accountability) Act

H.R. 3369 is led by Representative Josh Harder (D-CA). This bill would direct NTIA to conduct a study on accountability measures for artificial intelligence (AI) systems used by communications networks. It would also direct NTIA to hold public meetings with relevant stakeholders to solicit feedback on the information that should be available to consumers who

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interact with AI systems and the most effective way to make that information available to consumers.

4. H.R. 3385, Diaspora Link Act

H.R. 3385 is led by Representatives Stacy E. Plaskett (D-VI) and Russ Fulcher (R-ID). This bill would direct NTIA to submit a report to Congress assessing the value, cost, and feasibility of developing a trans-Atlantic submarine fiber optic cable connecting the contiguous United States, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Ghana, and Nigeria.

5. H.R.4511, the Public Safety Communications Act

The bill is led by Representative Kat Cammack (R-FL). The bill would codify the existing Office of Public Safety Communications within NTIA and provide direction on the duties of the Office.

6. H.R. 4506, the Timely Evaluation of Acquisitions, Mergers, or Transactions with External Lawful Entities to Clear Owners and Management (TEAM TELECOM) Act

The bill is led by Representative Bill Johnson (R-OH). The bill would direct NTIA to develop procedures to consider the law enforcement and national security policy implications of the approval of an application for a license to provide communications services within the United States that the Federal Communications Commission has referred to NTIA.

7. H.R. 4512, the Digital Economy Cybersecurity Advisory Act of 2023

The bill is led by Representative August Pfluger (R-TX). The bill would establish a digital economy and cybersecurity board of advisors to provide recommendations on cybersecurity matters to the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information for implementation by NTIA or that NTIA could recommend for implementation by other appropriate entities.

8. H.R. 4505, the Proper Leadership to Align Networks (PLAN) for Broadband Act

The bill is led by Representatives Tim Walberg (R-MI) and Ann M. Kuster (D-NH). The bill would require NTIA to develop and submit to Congress a national strategy to close the digital divide, support better management of broadband funding programs, synchronize interagency coordination among agencies that provide broadband funding, and reduce barriers to broadband permitting processes.

9. H.R.4513, the Commerce Spectrum Coordination Act of 2023

The bill is led by Representative H. Morgan Griffith (R-VA). The bill would codify the existing Commerce Spectrum Management Advisory Council (CSMAC), which advises the

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Assistant Secretary on a broad range of spectrum policy issues, including to offer expertise on reforms to enable new technologies and services.

10. H.R. 4504, the Novel, Advanced Spectrum and Communications Technology Networks Promotion Act

The bill is led by Representative Brett Guthrie (R-KY). The bill would direct NTIA to support the establishment, prototyping, and implementation of common models, common methodologies, and common inputs to inform spectrum management decisions.

11. H.R. 3431, the Spectrum Coexistence Act

H.R. 3431 is led by Ranking Member Doris Matsui (D-CA). The bill would direct the Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with NTIA, to convene a working group to develop, and periodically update, criteria, ratings, and other measures, including voluntary standards, of radio receivers operating on Federal systems.

III. STAFF CONTACTS

If you have any questions regarding this hearing, please contact Kate O'Connor, Evan Viau, John Lin, Giulia Leganski, or Slate Herman of the Committee Staff at (202) 225-3641.