

March 15, 2017

The Honorable Robert Latta  
Chairman  
House Energy & Commerce  
Subcommittee on Digital Commerce &  
Consumer Protection  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Janice Schakowsky  
Ranking Member  
House Energy & Commerce  
Subcommittee on Digital Commerce &  
Consumer Protection  
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: Support for Smart Cities and Communities Act

Dear Chairman Latta & Ranking Member Schakowsky:

This week, the House Energy and Commerce Committee will hold the first ever hearing focusing on smart cities. During the hearing, Congressman Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM) will be introducing the ***Smart Cities and Communities Act***, a bill that focuses on enhancing federal coordination and investment in smart city and community programs, providing assistance to communities through workforce training and technology demonstration programs, improving performance and interoperability, and international cooperation and best practices.

A smart city uses information and communications technology (ICT) to enhance its livability, workability and sustainability. It collects information about itself using sensors, devices or other systems, and sends the data to an analytics system to understand what's happening now and what's likely to happen next.

Most cities greater than 750,000 in population have at least one — and usually multiple — smart city projects underway in one sector or another. But few cities have a comprehensive, long-term, integrated plan. In fact, there are only a handful of cities worldwide that are well on their way to a full adoption of smart cities technology in an integrated way across all sectors. And many of the real-world smart city examples are typically much larger or smaller than how we traditionally define cities. They're either occurring on a more regional basis or as small neighborhood-by-neighborhood projects.

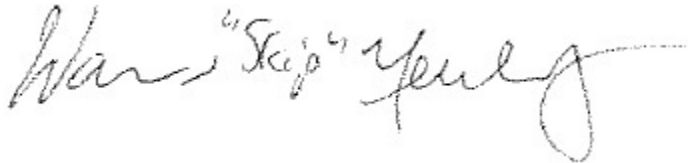
There is vast potential to provide smart city benefits to a larger number of citizens and those benefits are immense.

America has the opportunity to capitalize on the use of smart technologies to help drive innovation, stimulate the economy, grow jobs and bolster the country's position as a global technology leader. Whether it is the utilization of high-performance computing, a cloud-first philosophy or the use of cutting-edge data analytics, we are poised to create technological marvels that will be the envy of the world. The "best and brightest" will come to work for our cities, unlocking innovation in the tech petri dishes that will be our smart cities.

We the undersigned support the Act and urge Congress to move forward on this important piece of legislation. We feel strongly that Act will help accelerate job growth and innovation within our communities.



Elizabeth Hyman  
Executive Vice President  
CompTIA



Skip Newberry  
Chairman, Technology Councils of North America  
CEO, Technology Association of Oregon

**Arizona**

Arizona Technology Council (AZTC)

**California**

California Technology Council (CTC)

CONNECT

OCTANe

Tech San Diego

**Colorado**

Colorado Technology Association (CTA)

**Connecticut**

Connecticut Technology Council (CTC)

**Georgia**

Technology Association of Georgia (TAG)

**Idaho**

Idaho Tech Council (ITC)

**Illinois**

Illinois Technology Association (ITA)

**Iowa**

Technology Association of Iowa (TAI)

**Kentucky**



Technology Association of Louisville Kentucky (TALK)

**Missouri**

KC Tech Council

**Massachusetts**

Massachusetts Technology Leadership Council (MassTLC)

**Maryland**

Maryland Tech Council (MTC)

**Minnesota**

Minnesota High Tech Association (MHTA)

**New Hampshire**

New Hampshire High Tech Council (NHHTC)

**New Jersey**

New Jersey Tech Council (NJTC)

**New York**

New York Tech Alliance

**New Mexico**

New Mexico Technology Council (NMTC)

**North Carolina**

North Carolina Technology Association (NCTA)

**Ohio**

OHTech

**Oregon**

Technology Association of Oregon (TAO)

**Pennsylvania**

Pittsburgh Technology Council

**Tennessee**

Nashville Technology Council

**Texas**

Austin Technology Council (ATC)

Tech Titans

**Utah**

Utah Technology Council

**Washington**

Washington Technology Industry Association (WTIA)

**Wisconsin**

Wisconsin Technology Council (WTC)