

May 21, 2018

Chairman Bob Latta
Committee on Energy and Commerce;
Subcommittee on Digital Commerce
and Consumer Protection
U.S. House of Representatives

Ranking Member Jan Schakowsky
Committee on Energy and Commerce;
Subcommittee on Digital Commerce
and Consumer Protection
U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Chairman Latta and Ranking Member Schakowsky;

The Consumer Technology Association (CTA)™ would like to thank the Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection Subcommittee for its leadership in proposing policies to support the advancement of innovation and the Internet of Things (IoT).

CTA is the trade association representing the \$351 billion U.S. consumer technology industry, which supports more than 15 million U.S. jobs. Every day, our more than 2,000 member companies are developing extraordinary products and services and creating American jobs. At CTA, we work to advance government policies that encourage innovation and business creation.

The Internet of Things ecosystem is vast, encompassing products and services across every industry and market. CTA estimates that 715 million connected consumer technology devices will be sold in the U.S. this year.¹ This includes devices like laptops, tablets, smartphones, gaming consoles, smart TVs, smart speakers, fitness trackers, smartwatches, connected Wi-Fi cameras, smart doorbells and door locks, connected light bulbs, streaming media players and more.

As the IoT ecosystem has developed, the number and involvement of various government agencies and organizations has grown exponentially. The State of Modern Application, Research, and Trends of IoT Act (SMART IoT Act) would catalogue the work of various federal government agencies and assist in setting a solid baseline and understanding of the IoT ecosystem. The SMART IoT Act would require a report on the state of the internet-connected devices industry in the United States. This is essential in assisting policymakers as they develop policies that foster innovation, eliminate redundancies and determine opportunities for better cooperation between agencies and the industry.

We appreciated the opportunity to provide our feedback on the discussion draft and your willingness to incorporate many of our suggestions. I applaud your thoughtful approach and CTA is happy to lend its support to this effort.

¹ CTA Consumer Technology Extended Forecasts 2016-2021 (January 2018 edition)

The connected world of tomorrow will improve people's lives. CTA is proud to represent the companies whose products and services largely comprise the Internet of Things. We look forward to working with the Committee to promote growth and innovation through thoughtful government policies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Gary Shapiro". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "G".

Gary Shapiro
President and CEO