



October 6, 2017

TO: Members, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology

FROM: Committee Majority Staff

RE: Subcommittee Markup

I. INTRODUCTION

The Subcommittee on Communications and Technology will meet in open markup session on Wednesday, October 11, 2017, at 1:00 p.m., in 2123 Rayburn House Office Building to consider the following:

- H.R. ____, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to reauthorize appropriations for the Federal Communications Commission, to provide for certain procedural changes to the rules of the Commission to maximize opportunities for public participation and efficient decisionmaking, and for other purposes.

II. EXPLANATION OF LEGISLATION

The legislation reauthorizes the Federal Communications Commission, an agency that has not been reauthorized since 1990. In addition to authorizing appropriations, the legislation includes a number of reforms to improve the agency's process and fee structure.

Title I of the draft amends the Commission's fee collection authority to more accurately reflect today's communications marketplace. It creates parity between the agency's application fee and regulatory fee structure and allows additional flexibility to amend the fee schedule.

Title II of the draft includes the text of H.R. 290, FCC Process Reform Act of 2017, which passed the House unanimously in January 2017. This title requires the Commission to establish rules and procedures governing FCC process that will enhance agency transparency and provide more accurate agency performance measures.

Finally, Title III of the draft makes a number of additional agency reforms, including establishing the independence of the FCC's Inspector General and elevating the agency's Chief Information Officer.

III. STAFF CONTACTS

If you have any questions regarding this hearing, please contact Robin Colwell or Lauren McCarty of the Committee staff at (202) 225-2927.