

Rep. Leonard Lance  
FCC Oversight Hearing – July 25, 2018  
Opening Statement

Thank you Chairman Blackburn and thank you to Chairman Pai and the rest of the Commissioners for appearing before us today.

I commend the Commission and the members of the subcommittee for the good, bipartisan work that has occurred over the past year and a half. Much of the coverage on telecom issues focuses on a few politically divisive issues; however, I believe these are the exception not the rule. From closing the digital divide, to ensuring public safety, there is much we can agree on.

Just last night we secured passage of four bipartisan public safety and broadband access bills including two I worked on with Congressman Tonko, the PIRATE Act and ACCESS BROADBAND. Our greatest bipartisan achievement this congress was RAY BAUMS Act, which finally reauthorized the FCC and included an array of other bipartisan legislation.

Another thing we agree on is the importance of the US winning the race to 5G, which is why Ranking Member Doyle and I introduced the AIRWAVES Act early this year and have secured over fifty bipartisan cosponsors, a majority of which are on this Committee.

I look forward to discussing important issues such as these with the Commissioners today, and hope to continue to work with all of you on ways to serve best the public, despite our differences.