

Statement of Representative Anna G. Eshoo (as prepared)
Subcommittee on Communications and Technology
House Committee on Energy and Commerce
Continued Oversight of the Federal Communications Commission
2322 Rayburn House Office Building
July 28, 2015

Good morning and welcome back to the Subcommittee Chairman Wheeler and Commissioner Pai. Today's hearing marks the Chairman's third appearance before our Subcommittee in just over four months. In fact, the Congressional Research Service tells me that the Chairman's eight appearances before Congress this year marks a new record. In the past 14 years, no FCC Chair has testified more times before Congress in a single calendar year and we're only in the seventh month of 2015.

It's our Subcommittee's responsibility to conduct robust oversight and in so doing we should hear regularly from the Chairman and his fellow Commissioners. Responsible oversight includes a recognition that the FCC has undertaken an unprecedented series of steps to promote competition, enhance public safety and ensure consumers are protected against deceptive or misleading billing practices. Here are a few highlights of the Commission's work over the past year:

- Modernized the E-Rate program to increase the presence of Wi-Fi in classrooms, and bolster higher capacity Internet connections to the anchor institutions across our country – schools and libraries.
- Raised a record \$44.9 billion from the AWS-3 auction.
- Repealed the outdated and anti-consumer sports blackout rules which for four decades prevented fans from watching games on television when they were not sold out.
- Launched a new consumer help center to streamline the complaint process and improve how consumers interact with the FCC. [Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to submit for the record a July 6th Op-Ed entitled “How the FCC Saved Me \$1800.”]

- Freed up 150 megahertz of spectrum in the 3.5 gigahertz band for mobile broadband.
- Established indoor location accuracy rules for wireless calls made to 9-1-1.
- Adopted bright-line rules that prevent broadband providers from engaging in blocking, throttling and paid prioritization.
- Levied a \$100 million fine against a major telecommunications provider for misleading consumers about their unlimited data plans.
- Preempted state laws in Tennessee and North Carolina that prevented local communities from deploying broadband.

All of this and more in just one year and there is much more ahead as the FCC prepares to undertake the world's first voluntary incentive auction and a technology transition to an all-IP world that preserves the core values of competition, public safety and consumer protection.

I thank you both for your continuing commitment to a modern communications marketplace and I yield the remainder of my time to Mr. Welch of Vermont.