

Committee on Energy and Commerce
Opening Statement as Prepared for Delivery
of
Subcommittee on Communications and Technology Ranking Member Doris Matsui

Markup of 28 Bills, Full Committee

March 20, 2024

Thank you, Chairwoman Rodgers.

As both Chairman Latta and I noted at last week's Communications and Technology Subcommittee markup, the stakes for continued U.S. technological leadership couldn't be higher. If we fall behind our global adversaries, the implications for both our economy and national security will be severe. As we've seen across the technological landscape, China, Russia, Iran and others are stepping up efforts to undermine America's interests. This is especially true for the industries in our Subcommittee's jurisdiction.

That's why I'm glad we're advancing a slate of bills to counter these targeted influence campaigns and reassert American leadership. I'm particularly glad my FUTURE Networks Act is on the agenda today. To maintain our lead in wireless communication, we need to be taking steps now to prepare for the next generation of networks. As China leans on Huawei and other companies to advance its interests in international standards setting bodies, the U.S. needs to stay vigilant and engaged. This bill would assemble our nation's brightest minds from industry, government, and academia on a 6G task force. The task force will provide vital insights on the development of 6G and these strategically important standards bodies.

This bipartisan bill would make a crucial down payment on American leadership by ensuring the U.S. is taking the necessary steps to lead. But, our Subcommittee also advanced legislation to combat the influence of adversarial governments across the technological landscape. I'm glad this Committee will be reporting them to the floor and I hope they receive a vote soon.

With that, I yield the balance of my time.