

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

R. BRUCE JOSTEN
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

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July 24, 2013

The Honorable Greg Walden
Chairman
Subcommittee on Communications and
Technology
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Anna G. Eshoo
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Communications and
Technology
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Walden and Ranking Member Eshoo:

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the world's largest business federation representing the interests of more than three million businesses and organizations of every size, sector, and region, and dedicated to promoting, protecting, and defending America's free enterprise system, strongly supports the "Federal Communications Commission Process Reform Act of 2013" and the "Federal Communications Commission Consolidated Reporting Act of 2013." These bills would improve the decision-making process at the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

The FCC Process Reform Act recognizes the need to make the FCC's current regulatory process more consistent, efficient, transparent, and reflective of today's dynamic and competitive communications marketplace. The bill would require the FCC to survey the marketplace via a Notice of Inquiry or similar proceeding before commencing a new rulemaking. For rules with an "economically significant impact," the FCC would be required to identify the problem that it is trying to solve, such as a market failure or actual consumer harm, and show that the benefits of the rule justify its costs. The bill also would require that any FCC-imposed conditions on transactions must be within the agency's authority and address merger-specific harms.

The FCC Consolidated Reporting Act would consolidate various FCC reports to Congress into a more useful comprehensive biennial report on the state of the communications marketplace. The FCC would be required to study the impact of multiple sources of competition including the Internet, rather than just basing their analysis on outdated regulatory silos.

The Chamber strongly supports the FCC Process Reform Act and the FCC Consolidated Reporting Act and urges you to support these bills.

Sincerely,



R. Bruce Josten

cc: Members of the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology