

Steve Largent
President/CEO

April 9, 2013

The Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman
Committee on Energy & Commerce
2183 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Greg Walden
Chairman
Subcommittee on Communications & Technology
2182 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Upton and Chairman Walden:

On behalf of CTIA – The Wireless Association®, I commend you for your commitment to the promotion of policies that will keep the Internet free from government control and safeguard the multi-stakeholder governance model that has allowed the Internet to flourish. When combined with wireless connectivity that now reaches most of the planet's citizens, the Internet is a powerful medium for commerce, political discourse, education and the delivery of health care.

When last year's World Conference on International Telecommunications in Dubai broke down over divisions related to whether the International Telecommunications Union should have authority to regulate the Internet, CTIA supported the U.S. Ambassador's decision not to sign the agreement. The free market and a commitment to a collaborative, multi-stakeholder approach to governance have helped to produce a vibrant and dynamic Internet ecosystem that is central to economic growth and political freedom. The United States was and is right to support policies that advance these interests.

Thankfully, in addition to Ambassador Kramer's refusal to embrace ITU authority to regulate the Internet at the WCIT, National Telecommunications and Information Administration Administrator Larry Strickling recently affirmed that the multi-stakeholder governance model for the Internet "has promoted freedom of expression, both online and off," and "ensured the Internet is a robust, open platform for innovation, investment, economic growth and the creation of wealth throughout the world, including in developing countries." I urge Congress to speak to this same subject, because when America speaks in a unified voice, policymakers around the world listen.

Thank you for your leadership on this critical issue.

Sincerely,



Steve Largent

cc: The Hon. Henry Waxman
The Hon. Anna Eshoo