

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 259

Expressing the sense of the Senate that United States leadership in 5G wireless technology is a national priority.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 24, 2019

Mr. JOHNSON submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate that United States leadership in 5G wireless technology is a national priority.

Whereas the United States led the world in the development and deployment of fourth-generation (commonly known as “4G”) wireless technology, such as Long Term Evolution (commonly known as “LTE”);

Whereas United States leadership in 4G technology created a mobile broadband economy that generated hundreds of thousands of jobs, billions of dollars of investment and economic growth, and tremendous consumer benefits;

Whereas the fifth generation of wireless connectivity, known as “5G”, promises to be even more transformative, with speeds 100 times faster than 4G and even greater capacity to carry wireless traffic than 4G;

Whereas the benefits of 5G technology to the people of the United States will be substantial, including better access to high-quality health care through telemedicine, better and cheaper food production through precision agriculture, more efficient manufacturing and transportation systems, more advanced educational opportunities, more avenues for entrepreneurship, more sophisticated and secure military applications and devices, and other benefits that cannot yet be conceived;

Whereas the Federal Communications Commission has introduced a comprehensive strategy to promote United States leadership in 5G technology, entitled “Facilitating America’s Superiority in 5G Technology” (or the “5G FAST Plan”);

Whereas a core component of the 5G FAST Plan for the development and deployment of 5G technology in the United States is making substantially more spectrum available, including low-band, mid-band, and high-band airwaves;

Whereas the Federal Communications Commission is vested with authority to make spectrum available for the commercial marketplace; and

Whereas the failure of the United States Government to present a unified position on the appropriate policies for critical 5G spectrum bands, including the 24 gigahertz band, at the World Radiocommunication Conference 2019 (commonly referred to as “WRC–19”) and to persuade allies to support that position could lead to a decision that would make those bands unusable for purposes of 5G technology development, impeding United States leadership and empowering global rivals: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) deems it a national priority for the United
3 States to lead the world in the development and de-
4 ployment of fifth-generation (commonly known as
5 “5G”) wireless technology;

6 (2) supports the efforts of the Federal Commu-
7 nications Commission to make spectrum available
8 for the commercial marketplace; and

9 (3) strongly urges all entities, including Federal
10 agencies, to work cooperatively with the Federal
11 Communications Commission to advance the goal of
12 United States leadership in 5G technology, including
13 at the upcoming World Radiocommunication Con-
14 ference 2019.

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