

used to provide better coverage and wireless speeds across the United States.

This short-term extension will also give us enough time to work out a broader deal on spectrum policy to ensure the United States continues to lead the world in 5G and technological innovation and beats China.

I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues in the House and Senate on a long-term spectrum auction extension, and I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DUNN).

Mr. DUNN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1108, a bill to extend the FCC spectrum auction authority through May 19, 2023.

From internet connectivity to telephone services, spectrum auctions are essential to the inner workings of the technologies that we use daily in our lives.

The FCC's authority to use competitive bidding augments American competitiveness by enabling our commercial providers to access the spectrum they need to continue operating and innovating.

In less than 2 weeks, the FCC's spectrum auction authority is set to expire. It is the duty of Congress to extend this authority, which has never been allowed to expire to date. The expiration of FCC auction authority would put U.S. wireless providers at a global competitive disadvantage, leaving users across the United States in dire straits.

This bipartisan legislation provides a solution that works for everyone, and I encourage my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 1108.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, this is an important piece of legislation to extend this spectrum auction authority. I urge all of my colleagues to support it in a bipartisan manner, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I also urge support of H.R. 1108. In the report that just came out from the Congressional Budget Office this past week for the budget outlook for 2023 to 2033, it is important to note that, on page 13, it cites that the FCC conducted several auctions in 2021 and 2022, which boosted net receipts in 2022 to \$104 billion.

Mr. Speaker, it is absolutely essential that this piece of legislation is passed, and I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 1108.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1108.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

INFORMING CONSUMERS ABOUT SMART DEVICES ACT

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 538) to require the disclosure of a camera or recording capability in certain internet-connected devices.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 538

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Informing Consumers about Smart Devices Act".

SEC. 2. REQUIRED DISCLOSURE OF A CAMERA OR RECORDING CAPABILITY IN CERTAIN INTERNET-CONNECTED DEVICES.

Each manufacturer of a covered device shall disclose whether the covered device manufactured by the manufacturer contains a camera or microphone as a component of the covered device.

SEC. 3. ENFORCEMENT BY THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION.

(a) UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRACTICES.—A violation of section 2 shall be treated as a violation of a rule defining an unfair or deceptive act or practice prescribed under section 18(a)(1)(B) of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 57a(a)(1)(B)).

(b) ACTIONS BY THE COMMISSION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Federal Trade Commission shall enforce this Act in the same manner, by the same means, and with the same jurisdiction, powers, and duties as though all applicable terms and provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.) were incorporated into and made a part of this Act.

(2) PENALTIES AND PRIVILEGES.—Any person who violates this Act or a regulation promulgated under this Act shall be subject to the penalties and entitled to the privileges and immunities provided in the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.).

(c) COMMISSION GUIDANCE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission, through outreach to relevant private entities, shall issue guidance to assist manufacturers in complying with the requirements of this Act, including guidance about best practices for making the disclosure required by section 2 as clear and conspicuous as practicable.

(d) TAILORED GUIDANCE.—A manufacturer of a covered device may petition the Commission, in a manner consistent with the rules of the Commission, for tailored guidance as to how to meet the requirements of section 2.

(e) LIMITATION ON COMMISSION GUIDANCE.—No guidance issued by the Commission with respect to this Act shall confer any rights on any person, State, or locality, nor shall operate to bind the Commission or any person to the approach recommended in such guidance. In any enforcement action brought pursuant to this Act, the Commission shall allege a specific violation of a provision of this Act. The Commission may not base an enforcement action on, or execute a consent order based on, practices that are alleged to be inconsistent with any such guidelines, unless the Commission determines such practices expressly violate section 2.

SEC. 4. DEFINITION OF COVERED DEVICE.

As used in this Act, the term "covered device"—

(1) means a consumer product, as defined by section 3(a) of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2052(a)) that is capable of connecting to the internet, a component of which is a camera or microphone; and

(2) does not include—

(A) a telephone (including a mobile phone), a laptop, tablet, or any device that a consumer would reasonably expect to have a microphone or camera;

(B) any device that is specifically marketed as a camera, telecommunications device, or microphone; or

(C) any device or apparatus described in sections 255, 716, and 718, and subsections (aa) and (bb) of section 303 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 255; 617; 619; and 303(aa) and (bb)), and any regulations promulgated thereunder.

SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall apply to all covered devices manufactured after the date that is 180 days after the date on which guidance is issued by the Commission under section 3(c), and shall not apply to covered devices manufactured or sold before such date, or otherwise introduced into interstate commerce before such date.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 538, the Informing Consumers about Smart Devices Act.

This is a relatively straightforward bill. It requires the manufacturers of covered devices to clearly disclose if a device contains a camera or microphone.

Internet connected devices are becoming increasingly present in our lives, and it is important for people to understand what they are buying.

This legislation would allow the FTC to go after bad actors and provide compliance guidance to manufacturers of covered devices.

Not being recorded or monitored without permission is a basic tenet of privacy that we all have come to expect. Again, we have to get notification.

Given Senate Commerce Committee leadership has followed suit with a companion bill, I am hopeful this whets the appetite for bipartisan, bicameral action on comprehensive privacy protections for all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 538, the Informing Consumers about Smart Devices Act.

The Internet of Things revolution has ushered in a new age of convenience and efficiency for the American public. Smart thermostats can save consumers money by tracking and reporting home energy use and making recommendations about adjusting temperatures to meet consumers' needs. Smart refrigerators can provide recipe suggestions based on the contents of the refrigerator. Smart ovens can scan food to automatically optimize the cooking process. Smart coffee makers can brew a fresh pot of coffee just as you are getting out of bed.

The American consumer is embracing these technologies. Today, the average American home has 11 Internet of Things, or IOT, devices. Over a quarter of consumers have at least one home automation device. These are technologies that allow consumers to interconnect and control their various IOT devices from one platform.

Congress should also embrace these technologies, but we must ensure that the IOT revolution does not come at the expense of consumers' privacy. Troubling reports have uncovered that some IOT devices may record images or audio without the user's awareness. Researchers have revealed that some IOT devices may accidentally record users as many as 19 times a day, collecting as much as 43 seconds of audio each time. Robot vacuums have taken intimate images of unsuspecting consumers which eventually ended up online.

Mr. Speaker, we must take action to combat these threats to people's right to privacy. That is why I am proud to support the Informing Consumers about Smart Devices Act. This legislation will require manufacturers of IOT devices to alert consumers that a device includes a camera or microphone if a consumer would not reasonably expect the device to contain such features.

Last Congress, this bill was unanimously reported out of the Energy and Commerce Committee and passed the House with broad bipartisan support.

I thank Representative SETH MOULTON for his leadership on this issue, and I encourage my colleagues to vote in favor of this bill.

While this bill addresses significant privacy concerns, it is also important that I note that we have to recommit to adopting a comprehensive privacy framework that protects all Americans and provides heightened protections for our children nationwide.

The American Data Privacy and Protection Act, which I authored last Congress with Chairwoman RODGERS, would do just that. It would ensure that consumers, wherever they reside in this country, will have meaningful control over their personal information and that children will have heightened privacy protections. It also provides clear and consistent rules of the road on privacy and data security to innovators, entrepreneurs, and small tech companies.

I appreciate that we are advancing today's legislation on a bipartisan basis. I know this legislation is important, but I also look forward to working with Chairwoman RODGERS to pass the American Data Privacy and Protection Act on a bipartisan basis in this Congress, as well.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CURTIS), a great member of the Energy and Commerce Committee and the sponsor of the bill.

Mr. CURTIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address my bill before us on the floor, the Informing Consumers about Smart Devices Act.

This commonsense and bipartisan bill would require the creation of reasonable disclosure guidelines for products that have audio or visual recording components that are not clearly obvious to a reasonable person, such as household appliances.

This emerging smart technology will provide unknown benefits and conveniences to modern life, but along with this new technology, we need to update transparency for consumers. My bill balances protecting American consumers with continuing to foster innovation.

By working with a broad range of stakeholders, my legislation will ensure consumers are aware of the capabilities of items they are putting in their homes without hamstringing the technology pioneers in places like Silicon Slopes in my district who are developing smart technologies.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues, Representative MOULTON, Senator CANTWELL, and Senator CRUZ, for their bipartisan and bicameral support of this bill. I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this bill.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOULTON), the Democratic sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. MOULTON. Mr. Speaker, our lives are dominated by smart devices, not just smart cars, smartphones, and smartwatches, but dryers, refrigerators, and even toasters. These technologies make our lives easier, but most Americans don't know that their refrigerator has the ability to listen or to watch.

Despite the fact that well over 60 million homes are actively using smart home devices, our laws regulating this technology have lagged. Big Tech has been able to move the privacy goalposts with impunity, so it is past time for a new generation of digital privacy laws.

That is why I put forward the Informing Consumers about Smart Devices Act along with my colleagues, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CURTIS) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS).

This bill would require the Federal Trade Commission to establish guide-

lines for properly disclosing the audio or visual recording capabilities of smart devices. There is widespread support for this legislation, from consumer advocacy groups to the tech companies themselves.

Americans deserve the chance to make informed decisions about the electronic eavesdroppers we allow into our homes. Let's pass this bill so that our consumers know when Big Tech is listening.

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Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers.

Mr. Speaker, I will just close by saying I do think this is an important bill for consumers, and I thank the sponsors.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, again, this is a commonsense bill, a necessary bill. It impacts our constituents. They need full disclosure. That is not too much to ask for.

Again, I urge my colleagues to unanimously support this for the second year in a row. Let's get it across the finish line, get it to the President's desk as soon as possible.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the sponsors of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 538.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

SECURING AND ENABLING COMMERCE USING REMOTE AND ELECTRONIC NOTARIZATION ACT OF 2023

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1059) to authorize notaries public to perform, and to establish minimum standards for, electronic notarizations and remote notarizations that occur in or affect interstate commerce, to require any Federal court to recognize notarizations performed by a notarial officer of any State, to require any State to recognize notarizations performed by a notarial officer of any other State when the notarization was performed under or relates to a public Act, record, or judicial proceeding of the notarial officer's State or when the notarization occurs in or affects interstate commerce, and for other purposes.