

FUTURE USES OF TECHNOLOGY UPHOLDING RELIABLE
AND ENHANCED NETWORKS ACT

MAY 14, 2024.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of
the Union and ordered to be printed

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, from the Committee on Energy and
Commerce, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 1513]

The Committee on Energy and Commerce, to whom was referred
the bill (H.R. 1513) to direct the Federal Communications Commis-
sion to establish a task force to be known as the “6G Task Force”,
and for other purposes, having considered the same, reports favor-
ably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do
pass.

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PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

H.R. 1513, the “Future Uses of Technology Upholding Reliable
and Enhanced Networks Act,” or the “FUTURE Networks Act”
would direct the Chair of the Federal Communications Commission

(FCC) to establish a task force to examine the possible uses, strengths, and limitations of sixth-generation (6G) wireless technology.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

As American consumers are increasingly connecting a broad range of devices to our country's wireless communications networks, the United States is facing a convergence of multiple policy issues related to these networks, including protecting them from cybersecurity vulnerabilities and supply chain disruptions. For instance, vulnerable internet of things devices can be hijacked by third parties to target other parts of wireless network infrastructure, exposing these networks to risk.¹ Wireless networks can also be exposed to risk by their own network components.² Therefore, the United States must remain engaged in the global race to produce innovative new wireless technologies, lest the nation be relegated to relying on suspect equipment, technologies, or services.³

Though fifth-generation wireless technology is only beginning to be utilized, U.S. communications and technology companies are already beginning to collaborate and discuss 6G wireless technology.⁴ Identifying security and supply chain issues, among other things, early in the development of 6G wireless technology will help policymakers and the telecommunications industry proactively address potential problems and limitations with this technology, while keeping American innovators on the cutting edge.

COMMITTEE ACTION

On January 11, 2024, the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a hearing on cybersecurity matters. The hearing title was "Safeguarding Americans" Communications: Strengthening Cybersecurity in a Digital Era." The Subcommittee received testimony from:

- Jim Richberg, Head of Cyber Policy, Fortinet;
- Tobin Richardson, President and CEO, Connectivity Standards Alliance;
- Clete Johnson, Senior Fellow, Center for Strategic and International Studies; and,
- Alan Butler, Executive Director and President, Electronic Privacy Information Center.

On February 15, 2024, the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a hearing on H.R. 1513. The title of the hearing was "Securing Communications Networks from Foreign Adversaries." The Subcommittee received testimony from:

- James Lewis, Senior Vice President, Center for Strategic and International Studies;
- Craig Singleton, China Program Senior Director and Senior Fellow, Foundation of Defense of Democracies; and,

¹ Pete Burke, *Protecting critical Internet Infrastructure from IoT Device Risks*, GCN (Dec. 10, 2018) (<https://gcn.com/articles/2018/12/10/iot-critical-infrastructure.aspx>).

² U.S.-China Economic Security Review Commission, *Supply Chain Vulnerabilities from China in US Federal Information and Communications Technology* (Apr. 2018).

³ *Id.*

⁴ Anna Akins, *6G Wireless: What It Is and When It's Coming*, S&P Global, Market Intelligence (March 4, 2021) (available at www.spglobal.com/marketintelligence/en/news-insights/latest-news-headlines/6g-wireless-what-it-is-and-when-it-s-coming-62956538).

- Lindsay Gorman, Senior Fellow for Emerging Technologies, German Marshall Fund's Alliance for Securing Democracy.

On March 12, 2024, the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology met in open markup session and forwarded H.R. 1513, without amendment, to the full Committee by vote of 23 yeas and 0 nays.

On March 20, 2024, the full Committee on Energy and Commerce met in open markup session and ordered H.R. 1513, without amendment, favorably reported to the House by a record vote of 44 yeas and 0 nays.

COMMITTEE VOTES

Clause 3(b) of rule XIII requires the Committee to list the record votes on the motion to report legislation and amendments thereto. The following reflects the record votes taken during the Committee consideration:

**COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
118TH CONGRESS
ROLL CALL VOTE # 3**

BILL: H.R. 1513, Future Uses of Technology Upholding Reliable and Enhanced (FUTURE) Networks Act

AMENDMENT: A motion by Chair Rodgers to order H.R. 1513 favorably reported to the House, without amendment (Final Passage)

DISPOSITION: AGREED TO, by a roll call vote of 44 yeas to 0 nays.

REPRESENTATIVE	YEAS	NAYS	PRESENT	REPRESENTATIVE	YEAS	NAYS	PRESENT
Rep. Rodgers	X			Rep. Pallone	X		
Rep. Burgess	X			Rep. Eshoo	X		
Rep. Latta	X			Rep. DeGette	X		
Rep. Guthrie	X			Rep. Schakowsky	X		
Rep. Griffith	X			Rep. Matsui	X		
Rep. Bilirakis	X			Rep. Castor	X		
Rep. Bucshon	X			Rep. Sarbanes	X		
Rep. Hudson				Rep. Tonko	X		
Rep. Walberg	X			Rep. Clarke	X		
Rep. Carter				Rep. Cárdenas	X		
Rep. Duncan	X			Rep. Ruiz	X		
Rep. Palmer	X			Rep. Peters	X		
Rep. Dunn	X			Rep. Dingell	X		
Rep. Curtis				Rep. Veasey	X		
Rep. Lesko	X			Rep. Kuster	X		
Rep. Pence	X			Rep. Kelly			
Rep. Crenshaw	X			Rep. Barragán	X		
Rep. Joyce	X			Rep. Blunt Rochester			
Rep. Armstrong				Rep. Soto	X		
Rep. Weber				Rep. Craig	X		
Rep. Allen	X			Rep. Schrier	X		
Rep. Balderson	X			Rep. Trahan	X		
Rep. Fulcher	X			Rep. Fletcher	X		
Rep. Pfluger	X						
Rep. Harshbarger	X						
Rep. Miller-Meeks	X						
Rep. Cammack	X						
Rep. Obermole	X						

03/20/2024

OVERSIGHT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Pursuant to clause 2(b)(1) of rule X and clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII, the Committee held hearings and made findings that are reflected in this report.

NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY, ENTITLEMENT AUTHORITY,
AND TAX EXPENDITURES

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII, the Committee finds that H.R. 1513 would result in no new or increased budget authority, entitlement authority, or tax expenditures or revenues.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE ESTIMATE

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(3) of rule XIII, at the time this report was filed, the cost estimate prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 was not available.

FEDERAL MANDATES STATEMENT

The Committee adopts as its own the estimate of Federal mandates prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 423 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

STATEMENT OF GENERAL PERFORMANCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII, the general performance goal or objective of this legislation is to establish a task force on 6G wireless technology at the Federal Communications Commission, to ensure experts, policymakers, and other stakeholders can proactively identify and address security, supply chain, and other issues in next generation wireless networks.

DUPLICATION OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(5) of rule XIII, no provision of H.R. 1513 is known to be duplicative of another Federal program, including any program that was included in a report to Congress pursuant to section 21 of Public Law 111–139 or the most recent Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance.

RELATED COMMITTEE AND SUBCOMMITTEE HEARINGS

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(6) of rule XIII, the following related hearings were used to develop or consider H.R. 1513:

- On January 11, 2024, the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a hearing on cybersecurity matters. The title of the hearing was “Safeguarding Americans” Communications: Strengthening Cybersecurity in a Digital Era.” The Subcommittee received testimony from:

- Jim Richberg, Head of Cyber Policy, Fortinet;
- Tobin Richardson, President and CEO, Connectivity Standards Alliance;
- Clete Johnson, Senior Fellow, Center for Strategic and International Studies; and
- Alan Butler, Executive Director and President, Electronic Privacy Information Center.

- On February 15, 2024, the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a hearing on H.R. 1513. The title of the hearing was “Securing Communications Networks from Foreign Adversaries.” The Subcommittee received testimony from:

- James Lewis, Senior Vice President, Center for Strategic and International Studies;
- Craig Singleton, China Program Senior Director and Senior Fellow, Foundation of Defense of Democracies; and,
- Lindsay Gorman, Senior Fellow for Emerging Technologies, German Marshall Fund’s Alliance for Securing Democracy.

COMMITTEE COST ESTIMATE

Pursuant to clause 3(d)(1) of rule XIII, the Committee adopts as its own the cost estimate prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974. At the time this report was filed, the estimate was not available.

earmark, limited tax benefits, and limited tariff benefits

Pursuant to clause 9(e), 9(f), and 9(g) of rule XXI, the Committee finds that H.R. 1513 contains no earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE STATEMENT

No advisory committees within the meaning of section 5(b) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act were created by this legislation.

APPLICABILITY TO LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Committee finds that the legislation does not relate to the terms and conditions of employment or access to public services or accommodations within the meaning of section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS OF THE LEGISLATION

Section 1. Short title

This section would provide that the Act may be cited as the “Future Uses of Technology Upholding Reliable and Enhanced Networks Act,” or the “FUTURE Networks Act.”

Section 2. 6G Task Force

Subsection (a) would direct the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to establish, within 120 days, a task force (Task Force) on sixth-generation (6G) wireless technology.

Subsection (b) would direct the Chair of the FCC to appoint members to the Task Force, which, to the extent practicable, shall be composed of representatives from companies in the communications industry, except those companies determined by the Chair to be not trusted; representatives from public interest or academia, except from organizations or institutions determined by the Chair to be not trusted; and representatives from the Federal government, state and local governments, or Tribal governments.

Subsection (c) would require the Task Force to publish, within one-year after the date of enactment, a report on 6G wireless technology addressing a number of issues, including the status of any industry-led standards-setting bodies working on 6G standards; identification of the limitations of 6G technology, including supply chain and cybersecurity concerns, identified by industry-led standard-setting bodies; possible uses of 6G technology as identified by industry-led standard-setting bodies; and how to best work with Federal, State, local, and Tribal governments on using 6G technology, including with respect to siting, deployment, and adoption.

The legislation also would require that a draft of the report be published for public comment not later than 180 days after the Task Force is established under subsection (a). The Task Force would be required to publish the draft report in the Federal Register and on the FCC's website. The final report also must be published in the Federal Register and on the FCC's website one year after the Task Force is established and submitted to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the United States Senate.

Subsection (d) would define terms used in the legislation, including "not trusted."

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW MADE BY THE BILL, AS REPORTED

This legislation does not amend any existing Federal statute.

