

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 10, 2015

The Honorable John Thune
Chairman
Senate Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation
512 Dirksen Senate Office Building

The Honorable Bill Nelson
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation
425 Hart Senate Office Building

Dear Chairman Thune and Ranking Member Nelson,

As sponsors of the Wi-Fi Innovation Act, we have a keen understanding of the unprecedented need to utilize limited spectrum resources effectively and efficiently. We applaud your leadership of the Committee and your work on technology and telecommunications issues. We write to urge you to seek a path forward and find answers to whether spectrum in the 5 GHz band can be safely shared. Increased use of unlicensed technologies and better utilization of spectrum are vital to alleviating the spectrum crunch, expanding Wi-Fi use, and promoting cutting edge innovations.

As you know, the upper 5 GHz band is currently allocated for satellite services and Intelligent Transportation Systems, such as vehicle to vehicle (V2V) and vehicle to infrastructure (V2I) technologies. These technologies have the potential to save lives across our nation's highways and our legislation provides clear protections for these uses, while also ensuring government and industry parties are held accountable for effective and responsible use of the spectrum. Since our bill was introduced, the auto and technology sectors have started working together to voluntarily test to determine if spectrum sharing is possible and we believe this is a meaningful step in the right direction. With additional oversight and leadership from Congress, we are confident that a reasonable and safe solution can be found.

We respectfully request your assistance with moving this issue forward, either by moving the Wi-Fi Innovation Act through to markup or by other means to find a solution to this important issue. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Senator Marco Rubio



Senator Cory A. Booker