



INCOMPAS: Reducing Deployment Barriers will Encourage More Broadband Competition

WASHINGTON DC (March 3, 2016) – Today the United States Senate Commerce Committee advanced the MOBILE NOW Act designed to spur expansion of the nation’s communications capacity and infrastructure.

Also advancing in the mark-up was a bi-partisan agreement on “dig once” policies to spur broadband infrastructure deployment.

In support of the Senate action, INCOMPAS, the competitive networks association, released the following statement from CEO Chip Pickering:

“We applaud Senators Thune and Nelson in moving the Mobile Now act to encourage the growth of 5G and the overall expansion of wireless broadband. As the bill seeks to streamline siting of communications facilities on federal lands, it is important to note that reducing barriers to deploying a robust wireline network is also a vital component in fulfilling the promise of 5G; a key reason why policies like “dig once” are so critical. We are grateful for Senator Klobuchar’s leadership on this issue and for Senators Thune and Nelson’s efforts in crafting the bipartisan agreement reached today”.

“Communities around the nation are pleading for faster broadband, more competition, and more networks. As competitive new entrants continue to deploy additional fiber networks it is imperative that public policy seeks to reduce all barriers to these deployments. In addition to policies such as “dig once” for conduits; other polices like “one touch make ready” for pole attachments are equally critical for reducing the cost and time of broadband deployment and we look forward to working with Congress on this issue as well.”

About INCOMPAS:

INCOMPAS (formerly known as Comptel) is the leading trade association for the competitive networks. INCOMPAS represents communications and technology companies large and small, advocating for laws and policies that promote competition, innovation and economic development. Learn more at www.incompas.org.

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