



TIA’s Legislative Tracker

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Issue	Number, Title, Date, Status	Sponsors	Summary
Accessibility			
Accessibility, Accessibility, Markey	HR 6320 <i>"21st Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act"</i> 6/19/2008 – Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce	Rep. Ed Markey (D-MA) 4 cosponsors	Broadens the definitions of IP-enabled communications services and consumer premises equipment (CPE). Raises the accessibility standard for telecommunications products and services from “readily achievable” to “undue burden”. Creates a private right of action. Creates closed captioning and video description requirements for <i>all</i> devices capable of displaying video. Creates accessibility requirements for user interfaces.
Broadband			
Broadband, Broadband Teleworking	S. 1000 <i>"Telework Enhancement Act of 2007"</i> 03/27/2007 – introduced and referred to Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs 6/12/07- Referred to Homeland Security and Government Affairs referred to Subcommittee on Oversight of Government the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia 11/14/07 –reported from committee with a substitute amendment	Sen. Ted Stevens (AK) 3 cosponsors	Allows federal employees to work away from the office unless agencies show their jobs aren't suitable for the arrangement. Currently, agencies' rules for eligibility and policies differ. Also recommends each agency appoint a telework manager.
Broadband, Broadband Teleworking	H.R. 4106 <i>"Telework Improvements Act of 2007"</i>	Rep. Danny K. Davis 9 cosponsors	To improve teleworking in executive agencies by developing a telework program that allows employees to telework at least 20 percent of the hours worked in every 2 administrative workweeks, and for other



	<p><u>11/07/07 Introduced in House</u></p> <p><u>5/21/08 Reported by Committee on Oversight and Government</u></p> <p><u>6/03/08 Passed in House</u></p> <p><u>6/04/08</u> Referred to Senate committee: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.</p>		<p>purposes.</p>
<p>Broadband, Municipal Lautenberg Bill</p>	<p>S. 1853</p> <p><i>“Community Broadband Act of 2007”</i></p> <p>10/30/2007 Senate committee/ subcommittee actions. Status: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported with amendments favorably.</p> <p>04/22/08 – ordered to be reported from favorably from committee, placed on the Senate calendar</p>	<p>Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ)</p> <p>8 cosponsors</p>	<p>[Identical to HR 3281]</p> <p>To promote competition, to preserve the ability of local governments to provide broadband capability and services, and for other purposes.</p> <p>No State or local government statute, regulation, or other State or local government legal requirement may prohibit any public provider from providing advanced telecommunications capability, or services using advanced telecommunications capability, to any person or any public or private entity.</p>
<p>Broadband, Municipal Broadband, Boucher Bill</p>	<p>HR 3281</p> <p><i>“Community Broadband Act of 2007”</i></p> <p>08/01/2007 – Referred to House Energy & Commerce Committee Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet”</p>	<p>Rep. Rick Boucher (D-VA)</p> <p>5 cosponsors</p>	<p>[Identical to S. 1853]</p> <p>To promote competition, to preserve the ability of local governments to provide broadband capability and services, and for other purposes.</p> <p>No State or local government statute, regulation, or other State or local government legal requirement may prohibit any public provider from providing advanced telecommunications capability, or services using advanced telecommunications capability, to any person or any public or private entity.</p>



<p>Broadband, Municipal Broadband, Markey Draft</p>	<p>H.R. Markey Draft <i>“Wireless Consumer Protection and Community Broadband Empowerment Act of 2008”</i> 02/27/2008 – hearing held, House Energy & Commerce Subcommittee on Telecom and the Internet</p>	<p>Rep. Ed Markey (D- MA)</p>	<p>Title II of the bill prevents states from prohibiting municipalities’ right to provide “advanced communications capability or service” to their citizens. The draft also includes provisions ensuring competition neutrality so that municipalities cannot give themselves preference, as well as provisions requiring notice and community input. NOTE: additional information on the draft under- Spectrum/Wireless, Consumer Protection section below.</p>
<p>Broadband, Internet Tax Ban</p>	<p>H.R. 3678 <i>“Internet Tax Freedom Act Amendments Act of 2007”</i> 9/27/2007--Introduced. 10/25/2007- Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent. 10/31/2007 - Signed by President. 10/31/2007 - Became Public Law No: 110-108 [Text, PDF]</p>	<p>Rep. John Conyers (D- MI) 6 cosponsors</p>	<p>PASSED INTO LAW Amends the Internet Tax Freedom Act to: (1) extend until November 1, 2014, the moratorium on state taxation of Internet access and electronic commerce and the exemption from such moratorium for states with previously enacted Internet tax laws (grandfather provisions). Restricts the authority of certain states claiming an exemption from the moratorium under the Internet Tax Nondiscrimination Act of 2004 to impose Internet access taxes after November 1, 2007. Expand the definition of "Internet access" to include related communication services.</p>
<p>Broadband Tax Credits, Matsui Bill</p>	<p>H.R. 1818 <i>“Broadband Deployment Acceleration Act of 2007”</i> 3/29/2007 - Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. 12/18/07 – expensing provisions included in Senate amendment to HR 2419, <i>“The Food and Energy</i></p>	<p>Rep. Doris Matsui (D- CA) 61 cosponsors</p>	<p>Permits taxpayers to elect to deduct from payable taxes certain qualified expenditures for broadband, including installation and connection costs for subscribers in rural or underserved areas. Permits mutual or cooperative telephone companies to elect to reduce their unrelated business taxable income in any year by the amount of their qualified broadband expenditures. Directs the Secretary of the Treasury to designate census tracts identifying rural and underserved areas.</p>



	<p><i>Security Act of 2007</i>” (Senate’s Farm Bill)</p> <p>05/22/08 – expensing provisions were dropped from Farm bill conference</p>		
Broadband, Broadband Mapping, Sestak Bill	<p>H.R. 2359</p> <p><i>“A bill to reauthorize programs to assist small business concerns, and for other purposes.”</i></p> <p>06/20/2007 – passed House, referred to Senate</p> <p>6/22/2007 Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 218.</p>	<p>Rep. Joe Sestak (D-PA)</p> <p>3 cosponsors</p>	<p>Requires Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) to obtain broadband data based on the nine-digit zip code from companies applying for assistance with SBDC’s in order to determine where the service is being deployed.</p> <p>Requires the SBA Administrator to report data collected to the FCC and NTIA.</p>
Broadband, Broadband Mapping, Inouye Bill	<p>S. 1492</p> <p><i>“Broadband Data Improvement Act”</i></p> <p>05/24/2007 Introduced and referred to Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.</p> <p>7/19/2007 Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Subcommittee reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.</p> <p>10/24/2007 – Reported from Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation with substitute</p>	<p>Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-HI)</p> <p>18 cosponsors</p>	<p>Requires the FCC to revise the definitions of advanced telecommunications capability, or broadband, establish a new definition of second generation broadband, and revise certain reporting requirements to require reporting of broadband and second generation broadband connections by zip code plus 4 locations.</p> <p>Requires the FCC to determine certain demographic data for geographic areas that are not served by any provider of advanced telecommunications capability.</p> <p>Requires expansion of the American Community Survey to elicit information to determine whether persons subscribe to Internet service and, if so, by dial-up or broadband.</p> <p>Requires the Comptroller General to conduct a study to evaluate additional broadband metrics or standards that may be used to provide users with more accurate information about the cost and capability of their</p>



	<p>amendment, placed on the Senate calendar</p> <p>CBO Cost Estimate</p>		<p>broadband connection and to better compare the deployment and penetration of broadband in the United States with other countries.</p> <p>Requires the Small Business Administration Office of Advocacy to conduct a study on the impact of broadband speed and price on small businesses.</p> <p>Provides for grants to develop and implement statewide initiatives to identify and track the availability and adoption of broadband services within each state.</p>
<p>Broadband, Broadband Mapping, Markey Bill</p>	<p>H.R. 3919</p> <p><i>“Broadband Census of America Act of 2007”</i></p> <p>5/17/07 – Telecommunications and the Internet Subcommittee hearing to take comments on draft language.</p> <p>10/10/07 – Passed by voice vote, forwarded to full E&C Committee</p> <p>10/30/07 – Reported out of E&C as amended by voice vote</p> <p>11/13/07 – Passed House on suspension referred to Senate</p>	<p>Rep. Ed Markey (D-MA)</p> <p>15 cosponsors</p>	<p>Requires NTIA to develop and maintain a map depicting where broadband service & the level of service, is currently being deployed and identify providers and services based on postal zip codes.</p> <p>Directs the FCC to designate “bandwidth service tiers” by identifying tiers of increasing data transmission speeds of broadband service capability that will provide useful information about the nature and extent of deployment of broadband service capability, encompassing all data transmission speeds deployed & consist of multiple combinations of upstream & downstream data transmission speeds. Each tier shall be designated, where possible, to correspond to the ability to support qualitatively different applications and services, which the FCC will also identify.</p> <p>Gives authority to NTIA to allocate grants to states and local government for assistance with developing a broadband inventory map.</p> <p>Authorizes \$60 million for broadband maps & development grants over 3 years (2008-2010).</p> <p>Authorizes \$275 million for states’ local technology planning grants over 4 years (2008-2010).</p>
<p>Broadband, Broadband Deployment, Eshoo Bill</p>	<p>H. Res. 1292</p> <p><i>“Establishing a national goal for the universal deployment of next-generation broadband networks to</i></p>	<p>Rep. Anna Eshoo (D-CA)</p> <p>2 cosponsors</p>	<p>Establishes a national next-generation broadband network goal to bring, by 2010, universal and affordable access to networks with the capability of transmitting data at 10 megabits per second, bidirectionally, and by 2015, universal and affordable</p>



	<p><i>access the internet and for other uses by 2015”</i></p> <p>6/20/08 - Introduced in the House and referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce</p>		<p>access to networks with the capability of transmitting data at 100 megabits per second bidirectionally.</p> <p>Directs the relevant congressional committees to work with the President to develop a strategy to achieve the national next-generation broadband network goal; and to begin, by the end of 2009, to enact specific legislation and adopt policies to implement this strategy.</p> <p>(See S. Res. 191 below)</p>
Broadband, Broadband Deployment, Rockefeller Bill	<p>S. Res. 191</p> <p><i>“Establishing a national goal for the universal deployment of next-generation broadband networks to access the Internet and for other uses by 2015”</i></p> <p>5/8/07 – Submitted to the Senate, referred to Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation</p>	<p>Sen. John Rockefeller (D-WV)</p> <p>Sen. Barack Obama (D-IL)</p>	<p>Establishes a national next-generation broadband network goal to bring, by 2015, universal and affordable access to networks with the capability of transmitting data at 100 megabits per second, bidirectionally, so that households, businesses, and government offices in the United States can access the Internet and, via direct connections, access other households, businesses, and government offices.</p> <p>Directs the relevant congressional committees to work with the President to develop a strategy to achieve the national next-generation broadband network goal; and to begin, by the end of 2007, to enact specific legislation and adopt policies to implement this strategy.</p> <p>(See H. Res. 1292 above)</p>
Consumer Product Safety			
Consumer Product Safety, UPDATED House Bill	<p>H.R. 4040</p> <p><i>“Consumer Product Safety Modernization Act”</i></p> <p>11/1/07 – Introduced in House</p>	<p>Rep. Bobby Rush (D-IL)</p> <p>106 cosponsors</p>	<p>Requires a graduated reduction of lead standards, reaching 100 parts per million, a level unmatched anywhere in the world. Requires manufacturers to include tracking labels to aid in the event of a recall on all toys intended for children age 12 and younger, and mandate third party testing of toys by labs accredited</p>



	<p>Referred to full Energy & Commerce Committee</p> <p>12/19/07 – Reported with amendment by E&C Committee 51-0</p> <p>12/19/07 – Passed House by vote of 407-0</p> <p>3/6/08 – passed in Senate with amendment (text of S. 2663) by a vote of 79-13. (See below). Conference committee convened</p> <p>5/14/08 – In Conference Committee.</p> <p>7/17/2008 – Conference held.</p> <p>7/30/2008 – House passed Conference report</p> <p>7/31/2008 – Senate passed Conference report</p> <p>7/31/2008 – cleared for White House</p>		<p>by the CPSC. Authorizes increases to the CPSC’s budget to \$100 million by fiscal year 2011 and the Commission would receive \$20 million to modernize its testing laboratory. Requires the CPSC to conduct a study, due 9 months after enactment, on its ability to prevent unsafe products from entering the country. Enhances the commission’s power to quickly stop the distribution of unsafe products and notify State and local health officials of products that pose an imminent risk of death or severe injury or illness.</p>
<p>Consumer Product Safety, Senate Bill</p>	<p>S. 2663 (also see prior version S. 2045)</p> <p>“CPSC Reform Act of 2007”</p> <p>02/25/08 – Introduced in the Senate – held at the desk.</p> <p>03/06/2008 – Passed by the Senate as an amendment to H.R. 4040 by a vote of 79-13. Conference Committee</p>	<p>Sen. Mark Pryor (D-AR)</p> <p>10 cosponsors</p>	<p>Reforms the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to provide greater protection for children’s products, to improve the screening of noncompliant consumer products, to improve the effectiveness of consumer product recall programs.</p> <p>Amends the Consumer Product Safety Act to authorize appropriations and increases the size of the CPSC staff.</p>



	convened		
FCC Oversight			
FCC Oversight, Forbearance Procedure	S. 2469 <i>“Protecting Consumers through Proper Forbearance Procedures Act”</i> 12/13/2007 – Referred to Senate, Commerce, Science and Transportation.	Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-HI) 2 cosponsors	Requires the FCC to grant or deny, within one year a petition requesting that the FCC forbear from applying a regulation or provision of the Communications Act.
Health Technology			
Health Technology, Health IT, Eshoo Bill	H.R. 3800	Rep. Anna Eshoo (D-CA) 13 cosponsors	Establishes a public-private Partnership for Health Care Improvement to recommend specific actions to achieve a nationwide interoperable health information technology infrastructure. Authorizes grants for the purchase of qualified health information technology systems.
Net Neutrality			
Net Neutrality, Dorgan Bill	S. 215 <i>“Internet Freedom Preservation Act”</i> 01/09/2007 – introduced and referred to Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation	Sen. Byron Dorgan (D-ND). Sen. Olympia Snowe (R-ME) 10 cosponsors	Amends the Communications Act of 1934 to establish certain internet neutrality duties for broadband service providers, including not interfering with, or discriminating against, the ability of any person to use broadband service in a lawful manner. Allows providers to engage in activities in furtherance of certain management and business-related practices, such as protecting network security and offering consumer protection services such as parental controls. Prohibits a provider from requiring a subscriber, as a condition on the purchase of broadband service, to purchase any cable service, telecommunications service, or IP-enabled voice service. Requires a report from the FCC to specified congressional committees on provider delivery of broadband content, applications, and services.
Net Neutrality, Markey Bill	H.R. 5353	Rep. Ed	Amends the Communications Act of 1934 to declare



	<p><i>“Internet Freedom Preservation Act of 2008”</i></p> <p>02/12/2008 – Introduced and referred to House Committee on Energy and Commerce’s Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet</p> <p>05/06/08 – Subcommittee hearing held</p>	<p>Markey (D-MA)</p> <p>Rep. Chip Pickering (R-MS)</p> <p>13 cosponsors</p>	<p>that it is U.S. policy to maintain the freedom to use broadband telecommunications networks, including the Internet, without unreasonable interference from or discrimination by network operators and promote the open and interconnected nature of broadband networks that enable consumers to reach, and service providers to offer, content, applications, and services of their choosing; and guard against unreasonable discriminatory favoritism for, or degradation of, content by network operators based upon its source, ownership, or destination on the Internet. Requires the FCC to commence a proceeding – including holding at least 8 public meetings across the country - on broadband services and consumer rights, including assessing whether broadband network providers: (1) refrain from unreasonably interfering with the ability of consumers to access, use, send, receive, or offer content, applications, or services of their choice, and attach or connect their choice of devices; and (2) add charges for quality of service to certain Internet applications and service providers. Requires the FCC to report back to Congress within 18 months from enactment.</p>
Net Neutrality, Conyers	<p>HR 5994</p> <p><i>“Internet Freedom & Nondiscrimination Act of 2008”</i></p> <p>05/08/08 – introduced and referred to the House Judiciary Committee</p>	<p>Rep. John Conyers (D-MI)</p> <p>1 cosponsor</p>	<p>Amends the Clayton Act and would take an antitrust approach to the issue by requiring broadband providers to ensure that all legal Internet content has an equal opportunity to reach customers, allowing private lawsuits and treble damages when it does not.</p>
Research			
Research, Telecom Research Funding, Inouye Bill	<p>S. 1493</p> <p><i>“Advanced Information and Communications Technology</i></p>	<p>Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-HI)</p>	<p>Requires the FCC and the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to develop a plan to increase sharing of spectrum between federal and nonfederal government users and establish</p>



	<p><i>Research Act”</i></p> <p>5/24/2007 Referred to Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.</p>	1 cosponsor	<p>a implementation pilot program.</p> <p>Requires the director of NIST to establish the Telecommunications Standards and Technology Acceleration Research Program to support and promote innovation in the United States through high-risk, high-reward telecommunications research.</p> <p>Requires the director of NSF to establish a program of basic research in advanced information and communications technologies focused on enhancing or facilitating the availability and affordability of advanced communications services to all Americans.</p> <p>Requires related grants.</p>
<p>Research, Telecom Research Funding, Reid Bill</p>	<p>S.761</p> <p><i>“America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science (COMPETES) Act”</i></p> <p>4/25/2007 - Passed Senate with amendments by vote of 88 - 8.</p>	<p>Senator Harry Reid (D-NV)</p> <p>69 Co-Sponsors</p>	<p>Includes provisions that would allow the director of the National Science Foundation (NSF) to establish a program of basic research in advanced information and communications technologies.</p> <p>Areas of research to be supported through the grants include--affordable broadband access, including wireless technologies; network security and reliability; communications interoperability; networking protocols and architectures, including resilience to outages or attacks; trusted software; privacy; nanoelectronics for communications applications; low-power communications electronics; and implementation of equitable access to national advanced fiber optic research and educational networks in noncontiguous States</p> <p>Authorizes over \$200 million for grants from 2008 to 2011.</p>
<p>Research, Telecom Research Funding, Gordon Bill</p>	<p>HR 2272</p> <p><i>“21st Century Competitiveness Act of 2007”</i></p> <p>7/19/2007--Passed Senate amended.</p>	<p>Rep. Bart Gordon (D-TN)</p> <p>21 cosponsors</p>	<p>PASSED INTO LAW</p> <p>Reconciled with S. 761 and includes provisions that would allow the director of the National Science Foundation (NSF) to establish a program of basic research in advanced information and communications technologies.</p> <p>Areas of research to be supported through the grants</p>



	8/9/2007 - Became Public Law No: 110-69		include--affordable broadband access, including wireless technologies; network security and reliability; communications interoperability; networking protocols and architectures, including resilience to outages or attacks; trusted software; privacy; nanoelectronics for communications applications; low-power communications electronics; and implementation of equitable access to national advanced fiber optic research and educational networks in noncontiguous States Authorizes over \$200 million for grants from 2008 to 2011.
Research, Appropriations	H.R. 3093 Also see Omnibus Approps Bill FY2008 <i>Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008</i> 12/26/2007 – President signed Consolidated Appropriations Bill into law, PL 110-161	Rep Alan Mollohan (D-WV) 2 cosponsors	Makes appropriations for FY2008 for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, for science-related programs, and related agencies.
Research, R&D Tax Credit, Hatch bill	S. 2209 “ <i>Research Credit Improvement Act of 2007</i> ” 10/19/2007 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.	Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-UT) and Sen. Max Baucus (D-MT) 20 cosponsors	To Extend permanently and to improve the research credit, which expires in 2007 Phases out the traditional credit over 2 years, while increasing the benefits of the alternative simplified credit from 12 % to 16% in 2008, 18% in 2009, and 20% for 2010 and thereafter.
Research, R&D Tax Credit, Weller Bill	HR 244 “ <i>Technology Retraining and Investment Now Act for the 21st Century</i> ”	Rep. Jerry Weller (R-IL)	Amends the Internal Revenue Code to allow a tax credit for 50 percent of the information and communications technology education and training program expenses of individuals and employees, up to \$4,000 in a taxable year. Increases the allowable



	1/5/2007 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.		amount of such credit to \$5,000 for expenses for a program operated: (1) in an empowerment zone, enterprise community, or renewal community; (2) in a school district in which at least 50 percent of the students are eligible for free or reduced-cost lunches; (3) in an federally-declared disaster area; (4) in certain rural areas receiving federal assistance; (5) in an Indian tribal jurisdiction; (6) by an employer with 200 or fewer employees during a specified period; or (7) for a disabled individual.
Research, R&D Tax Credit, Baucus Bill	<p>S. 41</p> <p><i>“Research Competitiveness Act of 2007”</i></p> <p>1/4/2007 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.</p>	<p>Sen. Max Baucus (D-MT)</p> <p>5 cosponsors</p>	Amends the Internal Revenue Code to: (1) modify the tax credit for increasing research expenses to establish a standard 20% credit rate for research expenses exceeding 50% of average expenses over the preceding three year period; (2) establish a uniform 80% reimbursement rate for all contract research expenses (100% for basic research payments); (3) make such tax credit permanent; (4) allow a tax credit for equity investments in small business innovation companies; and (5) allow the issuance of tax exempt facility bonds for research park facilities used in connection with research and experimentation.
Research, R&D Tax Credit, Baucus-Grassley	<p>S. 2886</p> <p><i>“Alternative Minimum Tax and Extenders Tax Relief Act of 2008”</i></p> <p>4/17/2008 Referred to Senate committee. Read twice and referred to Committee on Finance.</p>	<p>Sen. Max Baucus (D-MT)</p> <p>12 cosponsors</p>	Extends expiring provisions including AMT, and the R&D tax credit. R&D credit is expanded and retroactively extended from the beginning of 2008 through the end of 2009.
Research, R&D Tax Credit, Johnson Bill	<p>HR 1712</p> <p><i>“Research and Development Tax Credit Act of 2007”</i></p>	<p>Rep. Edie Bernice Johnson (D-TX)</p>	Amends the Internal Revenue Code to: (1) modify the tax credit for increasing research expenses to establish a standard 20% credit rate for research expenses exceeding 50% of average expenses over the preceding three year period; (2) establish a uniform 80%



	3/27/2007 Referred to House Committee. Read twice and referred to House Committee on Ways and Means.	2 cosponsors	reimbursement rate for all contract research expenses (100% for basic research payments); (3) make such tax credit permanent; (4) allow a tax credit for equity investments in small business innovation companies; and (5) allow the issuance of tax exempt facility bonds for research park facilities used in connection with research and experimentation.
Research, UPDATED R&D Tax Credit, Rangel	<p>HR 6049</p> <p><i>“Renewable Energy & Job Creation Act of 2008”</i></p> <p>05/14/08 – introduced and referred to the Ways and Means Committee</p> <p>05/21/08 – passed House by a vote of 263-160, referred to Senate</p> <p>06/17/2008 -Cloture on the motion to proceed was not invoked. Senator Reid moved to reconsider the motion.</p> <p>7/29/08 – On reconsideration, cloture on motion to proceed to measure not invoked</p>	<p>Rep. Charlie Rangel (D-NY)</p> <p>17 cosponsors</p>	Among other provisions, the bill would renew the R&D credit as in current law before its expiration on December 31, 2007 and extend it through the end of 2008.
Spectrum/Wireless			
Spectrum/Wireless, Cell Phone Tax	<p>S. 166</p> <p><i>“The Cell Phone Tax Moratorium Act of 2007”</i></p> <p>1/4/2007 – Referred to the Senate Finance Committee where it awaits further action.</p>	<p>Sen. John McCain (R-AZ)</p> <p>7 co-sponsors</p>	<p>Prohibits states from imposing any new discriminatory tax on mobile services (cell phones), mobile services providers, or mobile services property for three years after enactment of this Act.</p> <p>Defines "new discriminatory tax" as a tax imposed on mobile services, providers, or property which is not generally imposed on other types of services or property or is generally imposed at a lower rate.</p>



Spectrum/Wireless, White Spaces, Sununu Bill	<p>S. 337</p> <p><i>“The White Spaces Act of 2007”</i></p> <p>1/18/07 – Referred to the Senate, Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee where it awaits further action.</p>	Sen. John Sununu (R-NH)	<p>Provides access to unassigned or unused portions of the TV broadcast spectrum.</p> <p>Requires FCC to finish its rules to permit unlicensed use of unused broadcast spectrum between 54 MHz and 989 MHz within 90 days of enactment of October 1st, 2007.</p> <p>Holds FCC accountable for action taken on white spaces, and addresses any uncertainty that may occur regarding authority over the use of white spaces.</p> <p>Imposes a shorter timeline to complete FCC rulemaking.</p> <p>Prohibits the FCC from imposing its marketing ban on white space technologies.</p>
Spectrum/Wireless, White Spaces, Kerry Bill	<p>S. 234</p> <p><i>“Wireless Innovation Act of 2007”</i></p> <p>1/9/2007 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.</p>	Sen. John Kerry (D-MA) 2 cosponsors	<p>Directs the FCC to complete its proceeding and issue a final order in the Matter of Unlicensed Operation in the TV Broadcast Bands, ET Docket No. 04-186, which facilitates the operation of unlicensed devices in television white spaces.</p>
Spectrum/Wireless, White Spaces, Inslee Bill	<p>HR 1597</p> <p><i>“Wireless Innovation Act of 2007”</i></p> <p>3/21/2007 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet.</p>	Rep. Jay Inslee (D-WA)	<p>Directs the FCC to complete its proceeding and issue a final order in the Matter of Unlicensed Operation in the TV Broadcast Bands, ET Docket No. 04-186, which facilitates the operation of unlicensed devices in television white spaces.</p> <p>Identical to Sen. Kerry White Spaces Bill.</p>
Spectrum/Wireless, Consumer Protection, Markey Draft	<p>H.R. _____ Markey Draft</p> <p><i>“Wireless Consumer Protection and</i></p>	Rep. Ed Markey (D-MA)	<p>Creates a policy framework for wireless services by providing for essential consumer protection rules at the national level, establishes a role for States in</p>



	<p><i>Community Broadband Empowerment Act of 2008</i></p> <p>02/27/2008 – hearing held, House Energy & Commerce Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet</p>		<p>supplementing FCC enforcement efforts. Addresses wireless early termination penalties, wireless plan and contract disclosures, so-called "truth-in-billing" rules, and service quality reporting. Tasks the FCC with promulgating rules to reflect a nationwide wireless marketplace, consistent consumer protection rules, and the bill pre-empts the States, except in limited circumstances, from creating their own, differing rules for such issues. Authorizes States to enforce the national rules clarifies that municipalities have the freedom to provide telecommunications services to their citizens seeks to make the government more efficient in its spectrum use and requires the NTIA, to conduct an assessment of government use of the spectrum. NTIA is instructed to identify frequencies that may be made available to re-allocate from the government to the FCC for subsequent use, and identify frequencies in government bands that could be made available for sharing with non-governmental users</p>
Spectrum/Wireless, Consumer Protection, Stevens Bill	<p>S. 92</p> <p><i>“Protecting Consumer Phone Records Act”</i></p> <p>1/4/07 – Referred to the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee where it awaits further action.</p>	<p>Sen. Ted Stevens (R-AK)</p> <p>2 cosponsors</p>	<p>Prevents phone companies from selling personal information to others, and requires new safeguards to prevent a person from posing as a customer in order to get copies of their telephone bills</p> <p>Extends consumer protections to all technologies evenly so traditional wireless and Internet phone callers are all protected.</p> <p>Increases enforcement authority for federal government, state government, phone companies and consumers so they can pursue lawbreakers.</p>
Spectrum/Wireless, Consumer Protection, Pryor Bill	<p>S. 780</p> <p><i>“Protecting Consumer Phone Records Act”</i></p> <p>3/6/2007 – introduced and referred to</p>	<p>Sen. Mark Pryor (D-AR)</p>	<p>Makes it unlawful for a person to: (1) acquire or use an individual's customer proprietary network information (CPNI) without written consent</p> <p>Directs the FCC to revise or supplement its regulations to require telecommunications carriers or IP-enabled voice service providers to protect the security and</p>



	Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.		confidentiality of CPNI.
Spectrum/Wireless, Consumer Protection, Klobuchar/Rockefeller Bill	<p>S. 2033</p> <p><i>“Cell Phone Consumer Empowerment Act of 2007”</i></p> <p>09/07/2007 – introduced and referred to Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation</p> <p>10/17/2007 – hearings held</p>	<p>Senator Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)</p> <p>Senator John D. Rockefeller, IV (D-WV)</p> <p>4 cosponsors</p>	<p>Requires that a wireless telephone service provider disclose, in a plain & conspicuous way, contract information regarding terms, charges, minutes, taxes and surcharges, and E-911 service in any publication of the contract, before a consumer signs up and in advertising.</p> <p>Requires wireless service bills to be clearly organized, in plain language, list taxes & fees separately, and itemize roaming charges.</p> <p>Requires each provider to make available a map showing the provider’s wireless service area of the provider in each state.</p> <p>Requires the FCC to monitor the quality of wireless service in the US by requiring semiannual reports of wireless service providers.</p> <p>Requires that early termination fees be prorated over the term of a wireless subscriber's contract in & reasonably link the fee to recovery of the cost of the device or other business expenses.</p> <p>Regulates service contract extensions, cancellation penalties, and changes in rates, terms, or conditions.</p> <p>Amends the Service-members Civil Relief Act to allow a member of the uniformed services to terminate a cellular phone service contract in specified circumstances involving service of at least 90 days.</p> <p>Preempts inconsistent state laws.</p>
Spectrum/Wireless, Eshoo	<p>HR 5846</p> <p><i>“Wireless Internet Nationwide for Families Act”</i></p> <p>04/17/08 – Introduced in the House and referred to the Energy and Commerce Committee Subcommittee</p>	<p>Rep. Anna Eshoo (D-CA)</p> <p>11 cosponsors</p>	<p>Amends the Communications Act of 1934 to require the FCC to promote nationwide broadband competition through the use of wireless services by issuing nationwide licenses, for a term of at least 15 years, for two bands of frequencies, each composed of 20 megahertz of unpaired contiguous spectrum, one band under 3 gigahertz and not part of the recovered analog spectrum and the other band between 2155 and 2180</p>



	on Telecommunications and the Internet		<p>megahertz.</p> <p>Requires licensees, among other things, to offer to consumers and authorized public safety users, without subscription, airtime, usage, or other charges, a data service that is faster than 200 kilobits per second and that has technology that protects underage users from accessing obscene or indecent material.</p> <p>Requires a separate rule-making or other procedures for licensing through auction additional unpaired contiguous spectrum of 20 megahertz below 3 gigahertz, but states that the auction shall be conducted without the conditions specified in the immediately preceding paragraph unless the Commission finds it is in the public interest.</p>
Trade			
Trade, Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA)	<p>H.R. 3920</p> <p><i>“Trade and Globalization Act of 2007”</i></p> <p>10/22/2007 – Introduced in the House.</p> <p>11/05/2007 – Referred to the Senate Finance Committee</p>	<p>Rep. Charlie Rangel (D-NY)</p> <p>39 cosponsors</p>	<p>Reauthorizes and extends trade adjustment assistance (TAA) to service workers and firms who are displaced or otherwise affected by trade agreements.</p> <p>Revises certain qualifying requirements for TAA for adversely affected workers.</p>
Universal Service			
Universal Service, RUS, Heresth Bill	<p>H.R. 2035</p> <p><i>“Rural Broadband Improvement Act of 2007”</i></p> <p>4/25/2007 - Referred to the Committee on Agriculture and the Committee on Energy and Commerce</p>	<p>Rep. Stephanie Herseth (D-SD)</p> <p>24 cosponsors</p>	<p>Ensures that rural broadband loans would not be awarded to applicants proposing to serve areas that already have a broadband provider.</p> <p>Specifies that borrowers that are serving eligible communities that are at least 50 percent already served will only be eligible for a Rural Utility Service loan equivalent to the portion of households that remain unserved.</p> <p>Redefines “eligible rural community” to mean any</p>



	<p>5/4/2007 - Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation, Credit, Energy, and Research.</p> <p>5/4/2007 - Referred to the Subcommittee on Specialty Crops, Rural Development, and Foreign Agriculture.</p>		<p>within the boundaries of a town or city with a population of more than 15,000 inhabitants or located within 10 miles of the boundary of any such city, village, borough, or town or any urbanized area or urban cluster.</p>
<p>Universal Service, RUS, Clinton Bill</p>	<p>S. 1032</p> <p><i>“Rural Broadband Initiative Act of 2007”</i></p> <p>3/29/2007 - Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.</p>	<p>Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-NY)</p> <p>Cosponsor: Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH)</p>	<p>Establishes the Office of Rural Broadband Initiatives within the Department of Agriculture, to be headed by the Under Secretary for Rural Broadband Initiatives. Requires the Under Secretary to administer all rural broadband-related grant and loan programs previously administered by the Administrator of the Rural Utilities Service.</p> <p>Directs the Under Secretary to submit a comprehensive rural broadband strategy report to the President and a plan for a Rural Broadband Advisory Panel to Congress.</p> <p>Establishes a National Rural Broadband Innovation Fund.</p>
<p>Universal Service, RUS, Salazar Bill</p>	<p>H.R. 2174</p> <p><i>“Rural Broadband Initiative Act of 2007”</i></p> <p>5/3/2007 - Referred to House Energy and Commerce</p> <p>5/31/2007 - Executive Comment Requested from USDA.</p>	<p>Rep. John Salazar (D-CO)</p>	<p>Identical to S. 1032</p>
<p>RUS, Farm Bill</p>	<p>HR 2419, PL 110-234</p> <p><i>“The Farm, Nutrition, and Bioenergy Act of 2007” - House</i></p>	<p>Rep. Collin Peterson (D-MN) – House</p> <p>Sen. Tom</p>	<p>The bill shifts assistance toward areas with no or very limited service. Generally, to be eligible for assistance, no more than 25% of the population in the area can have existing broadband service or service to the area is provided by no more than one incumbent broadband</p>



	<p><i>“The Food and Energy Security Act of 2007” – Senate</i></p> <p><i>“The Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008”</i></p> <p>07/27/2007 – passed House 12/18/2007 – passed Senate 05/22/08 – Conference passed over veto</p>	<p>Harkin (D-IA) – Senate</p>	<p>supplier. Additionally, an area receiving assistance can have no more than three incumbent providers. The bill simplifies application requirements for the program, reducing the cost of applying for a loan. Authorizes funding for the RUS broadband loan program - \$25 million per year for each year 2008-2012. Authorizes the creation of a National Center for Rural Telecommunications Assessment which will focus on rural policy research and will assess and report on the policy initiatives laid out in Sec. 6111</p>
<p>Universal Service, USF, Stevens Bill</p>	<p>S. 101</p> <p><i>“Universal Service for Americans Act”</i></p> <p>01/042007 - Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.</p>	<p>Sen. Ted Stevens (R-AK),</p> <p>Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX)</p> <p>6 cosponsors</p>	<p>Requires communications service providers (providers of telecommunications, broadband service and IP enabled voice service) to contribute to Universal Service.</p> <p>Funds collected by providers for the new fee would be a line item on a consumer’s bill.</p> <p>Would codify FCC ruling that VoIP services that interconnect with the public switched telephone network contribute to USF.</p>
<p>Universal Service, USF, Boucher Bill</p>	<p>H.R. 2054</p> <p><i>“Universal Service Reform Act of 2007”</i></p> <p>04/26/2007-Introduced in the House</p> <p>04/30/2007 - Referred to the Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet.</p>	<p>Rep. Rick Boucher (D-VA), Rep. Lee Terry (R-NB)</p> <p>43 cosponsors</p>	<p>Modify the universal service fund to broaden the base of contributions, assist with the rollout of high speed broadband access, and cap the growth of the high cost fund.</p> <p>Allows recipients to use USF support to deploy broadband and within their service areas and requiring recipients of universal support to deploy broadband with a download speed of 1Mbps or greater within 5 years of enactment.</p>
<p>Universal Service, USF, Valazquez Bill</p>	<p>H.R. 42</p> <p><i>“Serving Everyone with Reliable, Vital Internet, Communications and</i></p>	<p>Rep. Nydia Velazquez (D-NY)</p>	<p>Require the FCC to set rules for a fund dedicated to providing broadband in rural areas. The bill would expand the USF Lifeline and Link-up programs to allow participants to choose assistance for additional</p>



	<p><i>Education Act of 2007</i></p> <p>02/02/ 2007 - Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet.</p>	<p>13 cosponsors</p>	<p>technologies, including broadband.</p>
<p>Universal Service, USF, Dorgan Bill</p>	<p>S. 711</p> <p><i>“Universal Service for the 21st Century Act”</i></p> <p>02/28/2007-Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.</p>	<p>Sen. Gordon Smith (R-OR)</p> <p>Sen. Byron Dorgan (D-ND)</p> <p>2 cosponsors</p>	<p>Expand the USF Contribution base to include all 2-way communication services.</p> <p>Ensure that a carrier would not have to contribute more than once for the same service.</p> <p>Require the FCC to set rules for a fund dedicated to providing broadband in rural areas.</p>
<p>Universal Service, USF, Barton Bill</p>	<p>HR 6356</p> <p><i>“Universal Service Reform, Accountability, and Efficiency Act of 2008”</i></p> <p>06/24/2008-Introduced and referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce</p>	<p>Rep. Joe Barton (R-TX)</p> <p>Rep. Cliff Stearns (R-FL)</p>	<p>Limit the basis for contribution to voice services.</p> <p>Require the FCC to implement a reverse auction plan to be used to distribute universal service support.</p>
<p>Public Safety</p>			
<p>Public Safety, UPDATED E-911, Gordon</p>	<p>HR 3403</p> <p><i>“911 Modernization and Public Safety Act of 2007”</i></p> <p>08/03/07 – introduced and referred to House Energy and Commerce Committee</p> <p>10/30/08 – mark up in House Energy</p>	<p>Rep. Bart Gordon (D-TN)</p> <p>6 cosponsors</p>	<p>Amends the IP-Enabled Voice Communications and Public Safety Act of 1999 to require IP-enabled voice service providers to provide 911 service, including E-911 (enhanced 911) service, to their subscribers. Grants such providers, in meeting that requirement, the same rights, including rights of interconnection, on the same rates, terms, and conditions, as apply to a provider of commercial mobile service. Authorizes the FCC to compile a list of PSAP contact information and other information concerning 911 elements to assist IP-</p>



	<p>and Commerce Committee ordered to be reported by voice vote</p> <p>11/13/07 – reported from Committee and passed House on suspension. Referred to Senate.</p> <p>06/06/08 – Passed in Senate with amendment by unanimous consent.</p> <p>06/23/08 – Passed in House On motion that the House agree to the Senate amendment Agreed to without objection.</p> <p>07/23/2008 –Signed by President, enacted as PL 110-283</p>		<p>enabled voice service providers in complying with requirements imposed by this Act, and to make any portion of the information available to telecommunications carriers, wireless carriers, IP-enabled voice service providers, or other emergency service providers to improve public safety.</p>
<p>Public Safety, E-911, Nelson</p>	<p>S. 428</p> <p><i>“IP-Enabled Voice Communications and Public Safety Act of 2007”</i></p> <p>01/30/07 – introduced and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.</p> <p>4/10/07 – Hearing held</p> <p>4/25/07 – mark-up held and ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.</p> <p>8/3/07 - Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No.</p>	<p>Sen. Bill Nelson (D-FL)</p> <p>3 cosponsors</p>	<p>Amends the Wireless Communications and Public Safety Act of 1999 to impose on IP-enabled voice service providers engaged in interstate or foreign communication a requirement to provide 9-1-1 service, including enhanced 9-1-1 service, to its subscribers. Requires the FCC to issue regulations granting IP-enabled voice service providers right of access to 9-1-1 components that are necessary to provide 9-1-1 service, on the same rates, terms, and conditions that are provided to commercial mobile service providers. Requires the providers to establish a point of contact for public safety and government officials relative to 9-1-1 service and access. Authorizes the FCC to delegate enforcement authority to state agencies or programs with emergency communications jurisdiction. Authorizes the FCC to require any provider of a voice service that is a substitute for telephone exchange service to provide 9-1-1 service, including enhanced 9-1-1 service.</p>



	<p>110-142.</p> <p>2/26/08 - Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent. The committee substitute as amended agreed to by Unanimous Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.</p> <p>2/27/08- held at the desk.</p> <p>See action on HR 3403 above</p>		
<p>Public Safety, FISA, Reyes</p>	<p>H.R. 6304</p> <p><i>“FISA Amendments Act of 2008”</i></p> <p>6/19/08 - Introduced to House</p> <p>6/20/08 - Passed/agreed to in House by vote of 293-129</p> <p>7/9/08 – Passed/agreed to in Senate.</p> <p>7/10/08 – Signed by President. Became Public Law No. 110-261</p>	<p>Rep. Silvestre Reyes (D-TX)</p> <p>2 cosponsors</p>	<p>Amends the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 (FISA) to authorize the Attorney General and Director of National Intelligence to jointly authorize the targeting of persons located outside the United States in order to acquire foreign intelligence information, subject to specified requirements, including: (1) prior certification to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court (Court); and (2) certain targeting and minimization procedures. Authorizes joint applications and concurrent approvals of requests for acquisitions proposed to be conducted both inside and outside the United States; and concurrent authorizations of electronic surveillance and physical searches. Requires the review of surveillance actions conducted during the period beginning on September 11, 2001, and ending on January 17, 2007.</p>