

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 29, 2016

The Honorable Gene L. Dodaro
Comptroller General of the United States
U.S. Government Accountability Office
441 G Street, NW, Room 7100
Washington, DC 20548

Dear Mr. Dodaro,

As Co-Chairs of the Congressional Internet of Things Caucus, we write to request a GAO report on issues related to spectrum and the Internet of Things. A June 2015 report by McKinsey & Company found that the range of technologies embedded with Internet-connected sensors, known as the “Internet of Things” or IoT, have a total potential economic impact of between \$3.9 trillion and \$11.1 trillion a year globally by 2025. By 2020, it is expected there will be 26 to 50 billion connected devices in use worldwide. IoT is impacting every sector of the economy, and every aspect of the way we work and live.

Examples of IoT devices include everything from smart thermostats and fitness wearables, to connected devices that can tell when a bridge needs repairs. U.S. companies are leading the way in driving IoT, with cutting edge products and rapid innovation. But as with so many new technologies, IoT poses some challenges. One particular issue that could restrict the growth and adoption of IoT is a significant lack of available, reliable spectrum as demand for devices grows.

Specifically, we request the report address the following:

- What are the unique wireless spectrum needs that we will need to meet to ensure the success and functionality of IoT in the United States?
- Is the federal government currently taking steps to help ensure that increased demand for wireless spectrum can be met as IoT proliferates?
- What steps could be taken to better leverage existing federal programs or resources to meet demand from the growth of IoT?
- How can the federal government and private sector work together to meet demand for spectrum to support IoT?

Please contact Lauren Soltani (Rep. DelBene) at 202-225-6311 or lauren.soltani@mail.house.gov, and Tyler Grimm (Rep. Issa) at tyler.grimm@mail.house.gov or 202-225-3906 with any questions. Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,



Darrell Issa
Member of Congress
House Judiciary Committee
Chairman, IP Subcommittee



Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress
House Judiciary Committee
IP Subcommittee