



U.S. SENATOR MARIA CANTWELL

WASHINGTON

The following quotes were provided in support of Sen. Cantwell's [Spectrum and National Security Act](#):

"AARP, which advocates for more than 100 million Americans age 50 and older, is pleased to support the inclusion of \$7 billion for the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) in the Spectrum and National Security Act...By including the use of spectrum auction proceeds to fund the ACP in your bill, you are ensuring that millions of Americans living on fixed and low incomes can stay connected. AARP thanks you for your strong support for affordable internet service," said Bill Sweeney, Senior Vice President Government Affairs, AARP.

"CCA welcomes the introduction of 'Spectrum and National Security Act of 2024' and thanks Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation Chair Maria Cantwell (D-WA) for her efforts. Access to spectrum is crucial for U.S. wireless ecosystem growth, innovation, and connectivity. Given limited spectrum resources, policymakers must focus on reallocating sufficient licensed, full-power spectrum to ensure that all Americans, including those in rural, underserved, and unserved areas, have access to ubiquitous connectivity. It is also imperative that Congress immediately and fully fund the Reimbursement Program. Many Program participants have reached or surpassed their pro-rated funding allocations and are now making painful decisions where they will have to reduce or even eliminate wireless service for their own subscribers and the tens of millions of customers roaming onto their networks because of this national security mandate. The impacts will be especially harmful for those that could lose access to 9-1-1 and emergency services. Additionally, absent further funding, the ACP will sunset next month. I thank Chair Cantwell for addressing these priorities in this legislation and look forward to working with her and her colleagues in Congress, and Senate and House Leadership to urgently address these issues as soon as possible," said Tim Donovan, President and CEO, [Competitive Carriers Association](#)

“We applaud the release of Senate Commerce Committee Chair Cantwell’s discussion draft of the Spectrum and National Security Act, legislation that will improve spectrum planning and coordination required to build a future-focused spectrum policy that supports innovation, competition and seamless connectivity. In particular, we welcome the bill’s thoughtful approach to the study of new bands that can enable commercial use through greater reliance on the development, design and implementation of coexistence technologies that support licensed and unlicensed services. The current use and continuing evolution of technology enabling such sharing is not only beneficial to consumers, but increasingly will be required, to ‘expand the pie’ of available frequencies and meet future commercial and non-commercial needs. In addition to supporting this future spectrum work, we similarly appreciate action in the bill to extend the FCC’s lapsed auction authority, to help low-income families access broadband, and to honor prior commitments supporting the removal of communications equipment recognized as posing a security risk. We look forward to working with all in Congress on this legislation and critical issue,” said [NCTA – The Internet & Television Association](#).

“We applaud Chairwoman Cantwell for offering a forward-looking proposal that can deliver mid-band spectrum to meet America’s future needs without sacrificing national security. This proposal would restore the FCC’s auction authority and promote an innovative approach to dynamic spectrum sharing that can help turbo-charge U.S. wireless leadership without forcing us to choose between prosperity and security. “Chairwoman Cantwell’s proposal rightly recognizes that dynamic sharing is vital to maximizing limited spectrum, and consistent with the findings of the EMBRSS report, will help make that vision a reality. Spectrum for the Future looks forward to working with Chairwoman Cantwell and other policymakers to deliver on the Administration’s National Spectrum Strategy, pave the way for more innovation and more competition in the wireless market, and ultimately prioritize the needs of American consumers everywhere,” said Tamara Smith, Spokesperson, [Spectrum for the Future](#).

“Ample access to spectrum for unlicensed and shared technologies has made the U.S. a global leader in spectrum policy and must be a key part of our nation’s spectrum future. The Spectrum and National Security Act advances a clear strategy to maintain our global competitiveness, standing up for innovative technologies like Wi-Fi while protecting critical federal missions that rely on spectrum. Evidence-based decision-making on how best to make use of radio spectrum contrasts starkly with approaches in countries like China, which prefers to see all global spectrum designated for international mobile telecommunications – and therefore in the hands of Chinese state-sponsored companies like Huawei. The Spectrum and National Security Act takes a technology-neutral approach to design band utilization plans that best advance U.S. needs. WifiForward commends Chair Cantwell for releasing this important legislation, and we look forward to working with her and other policymakers to ensure that the U.S. remains the global spectrum leader,” said Mary Brown, Executive Director, [WifiForward](#).

“NATE commends Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-WA) for introducing the Spectrum and National Security Act of 2024. The legislation is an important contribution to the ongoing deliberations regarding the US’s future policy framework for spectrum and national security. We are particularly encouraged that the proposal would fund the rip and replace program, which is important for securing our networks, protecting consumers from emerging cyberthreats. Additionally, the legislation would go a long way to improving workforce development efforts in the communications industry. Both improving the integrity of our communications infrastructure and preparing the next generation of the communications workforce are essential to closing the digital divide. We look forward to participating in these important conversations with members of the Senate Commerce Committee as they consider this path forward,” said Todd Schlekeway, President and CEO, [NATE: The Communications Infrastructure Contractors Association](#).