



June 20, 2025

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ted Cruz
Chairman, Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
Ranking Member, Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader Thune, Minority Leader Schumer, Chairman Cruz, and Ranking Member Cantwell:

Thank you for your leadership on the reconciliation package and for your longstanding efforts to strengthen American technological innovation, competitiveness, and national security. As you and your colleagues continue to work on the reconciliation package, we write to bring to your attention that one of the proposed provisions would run counter to these important objectives. Specifically, rescissions to the Public Wireless Supply Chain Innovation Fund would weaken the U.S. telecommunications supply chain and set our nation back in its ability to lead globally in secure, next-generation wireless technologies.

Our member companies are already witnessing both directly and indirectly how the grants awarded by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration during the first and second Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) rounds are helping to bolster supply chain

resiliency, increase competition in the wireless supply chain stack, and drive new innovations. The third (and most recent) NOFO, which made \$450 million available for the program, received

over 90 applications requesting nearly \$3 billion to develop software solutions that reduce the cost, complexity, and improve security for Open RAN networks. This money, and the remaining \$500 million reserved for the fourth NOFO, is critical to help charge a maturing industry.

We have been pleased by the strong and growing support for Open RAN across multiple congresses and administrations. Most recently, President Trump's meeting with the Prime Minister of Japan, which marked the first bilateral meeting with a foreign leader during the President's second term, included an agreement on Open RAN deployment that was made part of the U.S.-Japan Joint Leaders' Statement.

The Innovation Fund is vital to the development of secure, trusted, interoperable and reliable 5G and 6G networks. Eliminating this crucial funding would undercut the ability of the U.S. to chart the path forward for wireless technology—which is also key for furthering U.S. leadership in artificial intelligence. We understand that there are many competing priorities to balance in the reconciliation package but strongly urge that no rescissions be made to the Innovation Fund, consistent with your commitment to advancing U.S. innovation and competitiveness.

Thank you very much for your attention on this matter.

Sincerely,

Open RAN Policy Coalition

Computer & Communications Industry Association (CCIA)

Information Technology Industry Council (ITI)

INCOMPAS

Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)

Wireless Infrastructure Association (WIA)