

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4813

To direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study to evaluate the role of unlicensed spectrum in offloading broadband traffic, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 17, 2018

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study to evaluate the role of unlicensed spectrum in offloading broadband traffic, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Wireless Internet
5 Focus on Innovation in Spectrum Technology for Unli-
6 censed Deployment Act” or the “WIFI STUDy Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. GAO STUDY ON THE ROLE OF UNLICENSED SPEC-**
2 **TRUM IN OFFLOADING BROADBAND TRAFFIC.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the
4 date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General
5 of the United States shall initiate a study of—

6 (1) the role that unlicensed spectrum plays in
7 the development of the proliferation of Internet-con-
8 nected devices;

9 (2) the role of unlicensed spectrum in managing
10 Internet protocol traffic on licensed wireless or other
11 broadband networks;

12 (3) the economic benefits to providers and sub-
13 scribers that WiFi provides in assisting with Inter-
14 net traffic management; and

15 (4) the potential avenues for, and barriers to,
16 broad deployment of gigabit WiFi service in spec-
17 trum bands below 6 gigahertz at a scale that allows
18 for rapid expanded use of new consumer devices.

19 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after initi-
20 ating the study required by subsection (a), the Comp-
21 troller General shall submit to the Committee on Energy
22 and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the
23 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of
24 the Senate a report on the results of the study that sets

- 1 forth the findings, conclusions, and recommendations, if
- 2 any, of the study.

