

Press Release

Spectrum Reauthorization Act of 2023: A Good First Step

PAULINA ENCK | JULY 27, 2023

House lawmakers have introduced the Spectrum Auction Reauthorization Act of 2023 to renew the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) authority to, among other things, issue spectrum licenses through competitive bidding. In a new insight, Technology and Innovation Policy Analyst Joshua Levine discusses the importance of renewing the FCC's authority and examines the continued obstacles to progress lawmakers must consider.

Levine concludes:

The bipartisan Spectrum Reauthorization Act of 2023 is an important first step in re-asserting the United States' role as a leader in wireless communication innovation, investment, and governance. Renewing the FCC's auction authority is vital to promoting technological innovation within the United States, ensuring consumers can reap the benefits of new services, and reviving the U.S. role as a global leader in the telecommunications sector. Policymakers must remember, however, that while this legislation represents an important first step in promoting U.S. telecommunication interests, potential barriers to progress remain. Looking ahead, members of Congress and relevant federal agencies should prioritize funding studies and research to identify ideal spectrum bands for re-allocation, a critical step in developing a robust spectrum pipeline.

Read the analysis