



OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

August 11, 2015

The Honorable Anna G. Eshoo  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Communications and Technology  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Eshoo:

Thank you for your letter about competitive availability of cable set-top boxes and other equipment used to access multichannel video programming services.

As you note in your letter, Section 106(d) of the STELA Reauthorization Act of 2014 (“STELAR”) directed the FCC to establish a working group to “identify, report, and recommend performance objectives, technical capabilities, and technical standards of a not unduly burdensome, uniform, and technology- and platform-neutral software-based downloadable security system designed to promote the competitive availability of navigation devices in furtherance of section 629 of the Communications Act of 1934.” I established DSTAC to meet this statutory directive, and have asked the Committee to include in its report how to meet the obligations of both section 629 of the Communications Act, as the umbrella statutory mandate, and section 106 of STELAR.

DSTAC has been moving full-steam ahead – holding six full, public committee meetings since it was formed and holding working group meetings four days per week. FCC staff is working to keep DSTAC on task to complete the required report to the Commission by September 4, 2015. All DSTAC meetings are public, and any non-members can make comments at those public meetings, including about the issues you raise in your letter.

I appreciate your interest in this matter and your tireless efforts to encourage competition, innovation, and consumer choice in the set-top box market. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Wheeler".

Tom Wheeler