



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

September 7, 2016

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin
United States Senate
717 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Baldwin:

Thank you for your letter expressing your continued support of the Commission's efforts to adopt privacy and data security rules protecting the privacy of broadband customers' personal information.

I agree that protecting consumer privacy is of utmost importance and, as you highlight in your letter, am proud of the Commission's long history of implementing and enforcing Congress' legislative directive to steadfastly protect the "privacy of customer information." As recognized in your letter, today's broadband Internet access service providers serve a similar gatekeeping function as the phone companies that prompted the initial customer privacy protections under Section 222, and consumers using modern telecommunications technologies are no less deserving of protection of their personal information. For this important reason, among others, the Commission adopted the March 2016 Broadband Privacy Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM), proposing rules requiring broadband Internet access service providers to protect their customers' proprietary information.

In your letter, you urge the Commission to consider a number of issues as it finalizes its rules. Among these, you note the importance of transparency, consumer consent, and security. Similar to the suggestions in your letter, these were key concepts in the Commission's NPRM and will be reflected in any final rules the Commission adopts. Regarding the specific definitions you suggest for the scope of our rules, as with every rulemaking—definitions do matter—and you are right to call attention to those questions.

Since the release of the NPRM, we have received thoughtful input from all sectors—including broadband providers, public interest groups, businesses involved in the Internet ecosystem, and government entities. Additionally, thousands of concerned citizens and other interested stakeholders submitted comments, providing us with a robust record upon which we will base our final rules. Commission staff are currently evaluating this extensive record and the many complex issues involved as we work towards our ultimate goal of adopting rules to safeguard consumers' privacy when using all telecommunications networks.

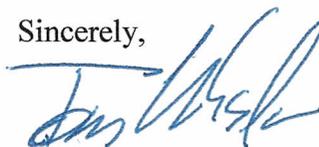
As the Commission continues to examine the substantial record in the proceeding, I can assure you that we will carefully consider the important issues you raise in your letter to ensure our final rules provide consumers with the protections needed to consistently safeguard

consumer data and to bolster consumer confidence in their use of these modern telecommunications networks.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Your letter will be added to the record of the rulemaking proceeding and considered as we take the next steps in the Commission's broadband privacy proceeding.

Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

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Tom Wheeler



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

September 7, 2016

The Honorable Richard Blumenthal
United States Senate
706 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Blumenthal:

Thank you for your letter expressing your continued support of the Commission's efforts to adopt privacy and data security rules protecting the privacy of broadband customers' personal information.

I agree that protecting consumer privacy is of utmost importance and, as you highlight in your letter, am proud of the Commission's long history of implementing and enforcing Congress' legislative directive to steadfastly protect the "privacy of customer information." As recognized in your letter, today's broadband Internet access service providers serve a similar gatekeeping function as the phone companies that prompted the initial customer privacy protections under Section 222, and consumers using modern telecommunications technologies are no less deserving of protection of their personal information. For this important reason, among others, the Commission adopted the March 2016 Broadband Privacy Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM), proposing rules requiring broadband Internet access service providers to protect their customers' proprietary information.

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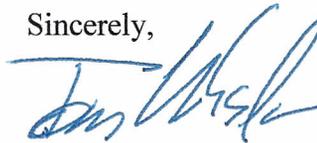
Page 2—The Honorable Richard Blumenthal

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Tom Wheeler



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

September 7, 2016

The Honorable Al Franken
United States Senate
309 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Franken:

Thank you for your letter expressing your continued support of the Commission's efforts to adopt privacy and data security rules protecting the privacy of broadband customers' personal information.

I agree that protecting consumer privacy is of utmost importance and, as you highlight in your letter, am proud of the Commission's long history of implementing and enforcing Congress' legislative directive to steadfastly protect the "privacy of customer information." As recognized in your letter, today's broadband Internet access service providers serve a similar gatekeeping function as the phone companies that prompted the initial customer privacy protections under Section 222, and consumers using modern telecommunications technologies are no less deserving of protection of their personal information. For this important reason, among others, the Commission adopted the March 2016 Broadband Privacy Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM), proposing rules requiring broadband Internet access service providers to protect their customers' proprietary information.

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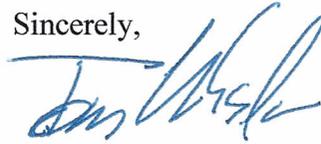
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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

September 7, 2016

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
United States Senate
437 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Leahy:

Thank you for your letter expressing your continued support of the Commission's efforts to adopt privacy and data security rules protecting the privacy of broadband customers' personal information.

I agree that protecting consumer privacy is of utmost importance and, as you highlight in your letter, am proud of the Commission's long history of implementing and enforcing Congress' legislative directive to steadfastly protect the "privacy of customer information." As recognized in your letter, today's broadband Internet access service providers serve a similar gatekeeping function as the phone companies that prompted the initial customer privacy protections under Section 222, and consumers using modern telecommunications technologies are no less deserving of protection of their personal information. For this important reason, among others, the Commission adopted the March 2016 Broadband Privacy Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM), proposing rules requiring broadband Internet access service providers to protect their customers' proprietary information.

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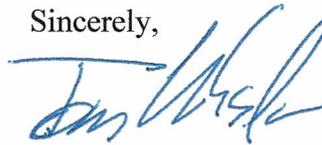
Page 2—The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy

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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

September 7, 2016

The Honorable Edward J. Markey
United States Senate
255 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Markey:

Thank you for your letter expressing your continued support of the Commission's efforts to adopt privacy and data security rules protecting the privacy of broadband customers' personal information.

I agree that protecting consumer privacy is of utmost importance and, as you highlight in your letter, am proud of the Commission's long history of implementing and enforcing Congress' legislative directive to steadfastly protect the "privacy of customer information." As recognized in your letter, today's broadband Internet access service providers serve a similar gatekeeping function as the phone companies that prompted the initial customer privacy protections under Section 222, and consumers using modern telecommunications technologies are no less deserving of protection of their personal information. For this important reason, among others, the Commission adopted the March 2016 Broadband Privacy Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM), proposing rules requiring broadband Internet access service providers to protect their customers' proprietary information.

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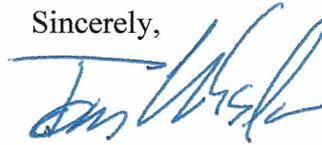
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Tom Wheeler



OFFICE OF
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WASHINGTON

September 7, 2016

The Honorable Bernard Sanders
United States Senate
332 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Sanders:

Thank you for your letter expressing your continued support of the Commission's efforts to adopt privacy and data security rules protecting the privacy of broadband customers' personal information.

I agree that protecting consumer privacy is of utmost importance and, as you highlight in your letter, am proud of the Commission's long history of implementing and enforcing Congress' legislative directive to steadfastly protect the "privacy of customer information." As recognized in your letter, today's broadband Internet access service providers serve a similar gatekeeping function as the phone companies that prompted the initial customer privacy protections under Section 222, and consumers using modern telecommunications technologies are no less deserving of protection of their personal information. For this important reason, among others, the Commission adopted the March 2016 Broadband Privacy Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM), proposing rules requiring broadband Internet access service providers to protect their customers' proprietary information.

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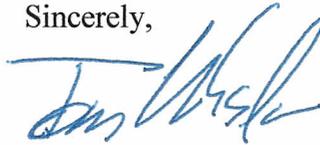
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Tom Wheeler



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THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

September 7, 2016

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren
United States Senate
317 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Warren:

Thank you for your letter expressing your continued support of the Commission's efforts to adopt privacy and data security rules protecting the privacy of broadband customers' personal information.

I agree that protecting consumer privacy is of utmost importance and, as you highlight in your letter, am proud of the Commission's long history of implementing and enforcing Congress' legislative directive to steadfastly protect the "privacy of customer information." As recognized in your letter, today's broadband Internet access service providers serve a similar gatekeeping function as the phone companies that prompted the initial customer privacy protections under Section 222, and consumers using modern telecommunications technologies are no less deserving of protection of their personal information. For this important reason, among others, the Commission adopted the March 2016 Broadband Privacy Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM), proposing rules requiring broadband Internet access service providers to protect their customers' proprietary information.

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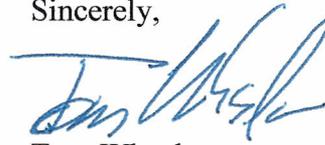
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Tom Wheeler