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Wi-Fi Innovation Act

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Feb 10, 2015

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (Feb 10, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/424>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]

Party: Republican • **State:** FL • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|-----------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ] | D · NJ | | Feb 10, 2015 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|---|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee | Senate | Referred To | Feb 10, 2015 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|------------|--------------|---|
| 114 HR 821 | Related bill | Feb 13, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology. |

Wi-Fi Innovation Act

Requires the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to provide additional unlicensed spectrum in the 5850-5925 megahertz band under technical rules suitable for the widespread commercial development of unlicensed operations.

Provides for such technical rules to permit outdoor unlicensed operations without requiring devices to dynamically detect signals from other systems.

Directs the FCC's Office of Engineering and Technology to seek public comments on proposals for interference-mitigation techniques and potential rechannelization that would accommodate both incumbent licensees and widespread commercial unlicensed operations in such band.

Sets forth a process for the FCC to test mitigation measures and methods of sharing spectrum with unlicensed devices within such band in a manner that would not cause harmful interference to incumbent licensees.

Directs the FCC, if it determines that existing licensees would not be harmed by interference, to modify regulations to adopt technical rules for widespread commercial deployment of unlicensed operations for such band. Prohibits modification of such regulations if the FCC determines that mitigation, rechannelization, or sharing would not prevent harmful interference. Requires the FCC to notify Congress, the Department of Transportation, and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration of a harmful interference determination.

Requires the FCC to modify regulations relating to Intelligent Transportation Systems radio service and dedicated short-range communications service on-board units if such modification would maximize utility of such band while protecting existing licensees.

Directs the FCC to make recommendations to Congress regarding the availability of broadband Internet access using unlicensed spectrum and wireless networks in low income neighborhoods.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 10, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 10, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.