Honorable Representative Anna Eshoo  
241 Cannon Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Representative Jackie Speier  
105 Bovet Suite 780  
San Mateo, CA 94402

Re: HR530: A bill to provide that certain actions by the Federal Communications Commission shall have no force or effect.

February 3, 2019

Dear Honorable Congress Members Eshoo and Speier:

Physicians for Safe Technology applauds you for your courageous efforts to preserve the rights of state and local governments in siting of wireless facilities including what are termed “small cells” by introducing HR530. These “small cells” will have not only 4G technology but are proposed to have new and untested 5G technology which may pose additional threats to both the environment and public health. We appreciate that you have not only pressed the Federal Communications Commission to provide scientific documentation substantiating 5G safety in a prior letter, but now introduced legislation that reverses the FCC 18-111 Order to hasten deployment of “small cell” telecommunications for proposed 5G rollout.

We believe that implementing the rollout of new 5G “small cell” wireless facilities before research can determine health risks is highly inadvisable. We have learned that the lack of premarket testing for cell phones, for example, was precipitous and today the scientific evidence strongly suggests risks for brain cancer and health impacts.

Existing FCC guidelines for public exposure are grossly inadequate. The public is not protected by them. The FCC, however, continues to commercialize new wireless technologies without updating health protections. In fact, the FCC has empowered the telecommunications industry to proceed without any safeguards for environmental or public health in their adoption of FCC 18-111 Ruling. There has also been no foresight into addressing regulation of looming liability, privacy or cybersecurity issues prior to deployment.

We believe HR530 is critically important in addressing the fast-tracking of 5G and reversing these recent actions by the FCC. The FCC’s new rules will otherwise place local agencies in legal jeopardy by dictating severe penalties for non-compliance with short processing times, inadequate fees and other limitations that virtually ensure rubber-stamping of small cell applications.

Very Sincerely,

Cindy L. Russell, MD  
Executive Director  
Physicians for Safe Technology