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COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE & TRANSPORTATION
U.S. SENATE

The 700 MHz Auction: Public Safety and Competition

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Good morning Chairman Inouye, Co-Chairman Stevens, and Members of the Committee. It is a privilege to be with you this morning to discuss “The 700 MHz Auction: Public Safety and Competition.” Thank you for affording me this opportunity to share with you the views of Verizon Wireless on this important topic.

Introduction and Summary

Congress, the Administration and the FCC have all declared that the deployment of broadband services to the American public is a critical goal. The 700 MHz auction has the potential to make a major contribution to expanding broadband and to delivering the many benefits of broadband to consumers, businesses, and America’s leadership in the world economy. I say, however, the potential – because to achieve these benefits, the auction needs to make the spectrum available in ways that will promote, not cripple, broadband. My years of experience in building wireless networks tells me that the 700 MHz auction can unlock even more benefits – but only if it’s done right.

I thus want to discuss what I see as two critical actions the FCC should take to help deliver on 700 MHz’s promise for broadband.

