February 22, 2017

Honorable Rocky Miller
Chair, House Utilities Committee
201 West Capitol Avenue
Room 233-B
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Honorable Dean Plocher
Vice Chair, House Utilities Committee
201 West Capitol Avenue
Room 115-D
Jefferson City, MO 65101

RE: Support House Bill 656 – Uniform Wireless Communications Infrastructure Deployment Act

Dear Chair Miller and Vice Chair Plocher,

On behalf of CTIA, the trade association for the wireless communications industry, I am writing in support of House Bill 656, the Uniform Wireless Communications Infrastructure Deployment Act. The people of Missouri continue to demand – at increasing levels – access to wireless products and services. This is demonstrated by the fact that 96% of Missourians use wireless. [1] Further, according to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), wireless subscribers in Missouri have grown to over 5.8 million subscribers, representing a 10% increase since 2010.[2] These demands from the wireless industry's customers – your constituents – require that wireless networks be updated today and readied for the next generation of wireless networks. House Bill 656 is a needed mechanism to solve today's problem and help to realize the future.

Small wireless facilities – also known as small cells – are being widely deployed to accommodate this increased demand. Small cells are wireless antennas, typically no more than six cubic feet in volume, and associated equipment generally less than twenty-eight cubic feet, that are being installed on existing structures like utility poles, street lights and traffic signal poles.

Small cells enhance capacity on existing 4G LTE wireless networks by efficiently using scarce spectrum and will be required for higher-frequency 5G spectrum. The benefits provided by 5G are astounding. 5G networks will provide increased capacity to accommodate growing consumer demands and will connect 100 times more devices. Imagine a future where nearly everything is connected to ubiquitous wireless networks at speeds ten times faster than today. Imagine communities that are smarter and more connected. Entire sectors, from public safety to transportation, will be transformed.

In fact, Accenture recently published a study noting that 5G wireless networks could create as many as three million jobs and boost the U.S. GDP by nearly $500 billion over the next seven years.[3] More

[1] U.S. Census, Population Estimates, at http://www.census.gov/data/tables/2016/demo/popest/state-total.html, last accessed 2/21/2017.
[2] FCC, Voice Telephone Services Report: Status as of June 2015, August 2016, at https://www.fcc.gov/wireline-competition/voice-telephone-services-report, last accessed 2/21/2017.
[3] "How 5G Can Help Municipalities Become Vibrant Smart Cities," Accenture Strategy, Jan 12, 2017. These estimates are based on expected benefits for the United States from next generation wireless networks and some smart city technologies. They are

specifically, Missouri communities – from small towns to big cities – that embrace the next-generation of wireless connectivity will realize significant economic benefits. For instance, 5G deployment in a community like Kansas City may create nearly 4,400 jobs and increase GDP by over $717 million and a community like Columbia may see the creation of over 1,000 jobs and increase GDP by $178 million.[4] That's the promise of the next-generation of wireless technology. America needs to lead in its deployment.

House Bill 656 amends the existing wireless infrastructure statute by including specific provisions relating to small cells that provide a streamlined process for their deployment. House Bill 656 allows providers the opportunity to responsibly deploy small cells by having reasonable access to existing authority infrastructure within and outside of the public rights-of-way (ROW). Such access will help to meet customer demands for faster data speeds, stronger in-building signals and an overall improved customer experience. House Bill 656 treats small cells like other collocations that do not qualify as "substantial modifications" under current law (along with the attendant timeline for review), so they are not treated like larger "macro" towers, which involve a much longer approval process. Further, House Bill 656 also allows for consolidation of substantially similar small cell applications, to minimize administrative impacts while improving efficiency. Finally, House Bill 656 seeks to impose reasonable rates, terms and conditions for access to infrastructure in and outside of the ROW.

Finally, it is important to note that House Bill 656 places no limitations on a locality's ability to deny a permit based on building, safety or electrical codes or standards. There is no removal of the locality's jurisdiction in this regard.

In closing, since 2010, wireless providers have invested more than $177 billion to improve their coverage and capacity to better serve Americans, with $32 billion invested in 2015 alone.[5] In order to accommodate our customers' demands for more data and faster speeds, we need to update today's wireless networks and ready them for the next generation of wireless networks. The regulatory and land use environment must allow for capital to be efficiently spent as capital tends to flow to places that are ready for investment. House Bill 656 would send such a signal that Missouri is ready for investment.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of House Bill 656 and we strongly urge its approval.

Sincerely,

Bethanne Cooley

Bethanne Cooley
Director, State Legislative Affairs
CTIA

based on per capita application of the estimated national benefits to individual cities (e.g., the number of construction jobs are national averages assigned on a per-capita basis), and may vary depending on the individual city.

[4] *Ibid.*

[5] CTIA's Wireless Industry Summary Report, Year-End 2015 Results, 2015, http://www.ctia.org/industry-data/ctia-annual-wireless-industry-survey, last accessed 2/21/2017.

5G Benefits: Missouri

- **Kansas City**
  - Nearly 4,400 jobs created
  - Over $270 million in Smart City benefits
  - Over $717 million in estimated GDP growth
- **St. Louis**
  - Over 2,900 jobs created
  - $183.22 million in Smart City benefits
  - Over $480 million in estimated GDP growth
- **Springfield**
  - Over 1,500 jobs created
  - Over $95 in Smart City Benefits
  - $252 million in estimated GDP growth
- **Independence**
  - Over 1,000 jobs created
  - $67.82 million in Smart City benefits
  - Nearly $180 million in estimated GDP growth
- **Columbia**
  - Over 1,000 jobs created
  - Nearly $67.5 million in Smart City benefits
  - $178 million in estimated GDP growth