July 25, 2018

The Honorable John Thune  The Honorable Brian Schatz
511 Dirksen Senate Office Building  722 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510  Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Thune and Schatz:

Health IT Now (HITN) commends you for your leadership as sponsors of the STREAMLINE Small Cell Deployment Act (S. 3157). We are pleased to support this measure to accelerate the building and deployment of a seamless nationwide broadband infrastructure by expediting the siting of 5G small cell wireless facilities.

It is estimated that there will be 20.4 billion connected devices in use worldwide by 2020.1 Ubiquitous connectivity is a high priority as the potential applications grow. This is especially true in the case of healthcare. The deployment of fifth generation wireless (5G) networks across the country will enable a myriad of new and advanced telehealth capabilities and applications through faster speeds and instantaneous network responsiveness. Implementation of 5G will mean improvements in real-time disease diagnosis, population analytics, patient outcomes, and remote access capabilities – all leading to more efficient, higher quality technology-enabled care.

The STREAMLINE Small Cell Deployment Act is an important step forward to simplify the process and timeframes for approvals for small cell deployment. We applaud you for your leadership in building a technology infrastructure supporting American innovation. We look forward to continuing to work with you on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Joel C. White
Executive Director

---

1 https://www.gartner.com/newsroom/id/3598917