

STATE OF THE NET



Internet
Education
Foundation

FEBRUARY 11 2025

LIVESTREAM BY
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State of the Net - Feb 11 2025

05 Keynote with Senator Marsha Blackburn

- **Opening Remarks**
 - Expressed appreciation for the Internet Education Foundation.
 - Highlighted her long-standing collaboration with Senator Markey on tech policy.
 - Stressed the importance of moving away from heavy-handed regulations, such as net neutrality.
 - Emphasized a focus on access, innovation, and investment in tech policy.
- **Children's Online Safety**
 - Discussed her work with Senator Blumenthal on the **Kids Online Safety Act (KOSA)**.
 - Mentioned bipartisan support in the Senate and House.
 - Compared online child safety to real-world protections against harmful exposure (alcohol, tobacco, pornography).
 - Shared a tragic story of a teenager's fentanyl overdose due to an illicit drug purchase on Snapchat.
 - Highlighted the passage of the **Report Act**, requiring tech companies to report crimes against children (sex trafficking, grooming, enticement) to NCMEC.
 - Called for stronger accountability on tech platforms.
- **Cybersecurity Threats**
 - **Focus on Consumer Protection and Privacy:** Leading initiatives on data security in the **Commerce and Judiciary Committees**.
 - **Chinese Cyber Threats:**
 - Referenced **Salt Typhoon**, a hacking campaign by the Chinese Communist Party that targeted U.S. officials (including Donald Trump and J.D. Vance).
 - Warned about vulnerabilities in wireless routers, particularly those from **Chinese companies like TP-Link**.

- Introduced the **Routers Act**, requiring a national security review of foreign-made routers and potential restrictions by the FCC.
- **Artificial Intelligence (AI)**
 - Recognized AI's potential in logistics, finance, healthcare, and manufacturing.
 - Warned of **China's AI censorship**, citing DeepSeek's refusal to discuss topics like Tiananmen Square.
 - Expressed concerns about **AI's impact on the creative industry**:
 - Mentioned **unauthorized digital replicas** threatening artists and musicians.
 - Introduced the **NO FAKES Act**, preventing unauthorized AI-generated likenesses.
 - Supported the **COPIED Act** for further protections against deepfakes.
- **Quantum Computing and Research**
 - Discussed **Tennessee's leadership in quantum tech**, including Oak Ridge National Lab and Chattanooga's quantum network.
 - Advocated for:
 - **Quantum Sandbox for Near-Term Application Act** (with Senator Luján).
 - **Manufacturing USA Institute for Quantum Development**.
 - **Defense Quantum Acceleration Act** for military applications.
 - Reauthorization of the **National Quantum Initiative Act** (originally passed in 2018).
- **Broadband & Spectrum Policy**
 - Called for an **audit of federal spectrum usage** to repurpose underutilized government-held spectrum.
 - Highlighted the lapse of **FCC Spectrum Auction Authority** (since March 2023).
 - Estimated spectrum sales could generate **\$100 billion** for the federal government.

Conclusion

- Reinforced a bipartisan approach to emerging technologies, cybersecurity, AI, quantum computing, and broadband expansion.
- Urged continued collaboration from industry stakeholders.
- Thanked the audience for their engagement and support.