

**Questions for the Record Submitted to  
Deputy Assistant Secretary Robert Strayer by  
Senator Thom Tillis (No. 1 and No.2)  
U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
May 14, 2019**

**Question 1:**

How does standard-setting processes relate to U.S. national security, and what steps should Congress take to ensure continued U.S. leadership in 5G standard-setting in the interest of national security?

**Answer 1:**

Standards developed through open, transparent, and consensus-based processes ensure that national security, economic competitiveness, and technological innovation related considerations are appropriately considered and taken into account. Congress can ensure continued U.S. leadership in 5G standards development and protect U.S. national security in this area by: (1) Incentivizing participation by U.S. stakeholders, particularly early and mid-career technical experts who will be the future contributors and leaders, and (2) commit strong support for U.S.-led research and development that will serve as the foundation of future contributions by U.S. stakeholders as to 5G technology-related standards development.

**Question 2:**

How do we ensure that SDOs – which are private entities – are adopting the best technology and affording fair treatment to the innovative companies and inventors who develop core technologies like 5G?

**Answer 2:**

Standards developed by Standards Development Organizations (SDOs) reflect the interests of the participating members. The ultimate adoption of these voluntary standards is also connected to the market-relevance, timeliness, and technical rigor of the development process. Ensuring that SDOs stay open and transparent to all interested stakeholders and continue to develop standards in consensus-based processes provides predictability to participants. Committed and consistent participation by experts – from both private sector and the government – ensures that technologies being considered for standards development are fit-for-purpose.