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CHAIRMAN JIM SAXTON

PRESS RELEASE

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INTERNET TO DOMINATE FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS

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Contact: Christopher Frenze
Executive Director
(202) 225-3923

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Internet is emerging as the central gateway through which most data, voice, and video communications pass, and policy must take this into account, according to a new study released today by Chairman Jim Saxton. The study, *Enabling the Future: Communications Law Should Anticipate Future Trends, Avoid Stalemates Over Issues that Will Soon Become Moot*, examines the potential of broadband Internet access to make available a wide array of services more conveniently and cheaply in the future.

“The Internet already is providing access to a wide range of services, but these will continue to expand in the future,” Saxton said. “The convergence of data, voice, and video transmissions is well underway. Given current trends in technology, the Internet will continue to generate new products, services, and business models. In the end, the Internet will be the most economical gateway for most data, voice, and video transmissions. Consumers will benefit from the provision of a greater choice of goods and services at lower cost.

“Appropriate policy choices can facilitate this development by removing roadblocks to the rapid development of broadband access whether through fiber, cable, wireless, or satellite transmissions. Ultimately, consumers will benefit greatly from a modern and competitive communications policy,” Saxton concluded.

For a copy of the new JEC report, *Enabling the Future: Communications Law Should Anticipate Future Trends, Avoid Stalemates Over Issues that Will Soon Become Moot*, please visit our website at www.house.gov/jec

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