



February 26, 2025

Hon. Kellie Warren
Chairwoman, Senate Judiciary Committee
Room 419-E
Topeka, KS 66612

RE: HB 2061 Critical Infrastructure Protections

Dear Chairwoman Warren:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide written testimony on behalf of T-Mobile in support of HB 2061. HB 2061, as passed by the House, amends current statute relative to the definition of “critical infrastructure facility” as it relates to the crimes of trespassing on a critical infrastructure facility and criminal damage to a critical infrastructure facility.

The bill would expand the definition of a critical infrastructure facility, when the facility is used for wireline, broadband, or wireless telecommunications or video services infrastructure, to clarify that the term includes such facilities whether they are located within or outside any public or highway right-of-way. The House added industry-supported language to expand the definition to include towers, wireless support structures and other associated equipment related to wireless facilities.

The protection of critical infrastructure is essential to the continued delivery of all communications services whether they be provided by cable, landline or wireless providers. Unfortunately, there has been an increase in vandalism and theft at our facilities around the country. These acts of vandalism against communications facilities are not only expense to the providers to replace, but more importantly they result in service disruptions that impact all types of communication including emergency services, 911 and 988.

The passage of HB 2061 will strengthen current law and provide additional tools to help protect critical infrastructure which provides essential broadband and other services over our networks. On behalf of T-Mobile, we encourage passage of this important measure by the Senate Judiciary Committee and full Senate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patrick R. Fucik".

Patrick R. Fucik
Director of Government Affairs
T-Mobile