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NewsClips

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Fierce Wireless

More support is being thrown behind a plan to have the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) auction off mid-band spectrum for

[Dish's 5G plans may be hindered by its lack of open source expertise](#)

Bloomberg
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Washington Post
[8chan vowed to fight on, saying its 'heartbeat is strong.'](#)
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Associated Press
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The Center Square
[In poll of governors' popularity, Pennsylvania's Wolf third among Democrats but trails 18 Republicans](#)

Allentown Morning Call
[Trump called PA Sen. Pat Toomey to talk about gun control legislation in response to latest mass shootings](#)

Beaver County Times
[Toomey, Casey diverge in response to mass shootings](#)

5G use rather than allow satellite operators to conduct a private sale of an asset they received for free.

U.S. Sen. John Kennedy, R-La., sent a letter to President Donald Trump on July 19 showing his support for an auction. He noted that Senate Appropriations Subcommittee members who heard from FCC Chairman Ajit Pai on the situation expressed concern that the proposal by the C-Band Alliance (a group of satellite operators) would allow the satellite companies to reap billions of dollars in profits by selling the spectrum. “It seems preposterous to me that given our growing national debt we would send a significant portion of the proceeds from a sale of public spectrum to foreign-owned businesses,” he said. “Second, allowing the foreign satellite companies to oversee the sale of this important spectrum – rather than letting the FCC run a transparent public auction – would put our 5G future in the hands of foreign-owned companies who have every incentive to put their own financial self-interests above our own national security and economic priorities.”

Kennedy also pointed out that the C-Band Alliance wants to clear just 200 MHz of 500 MHz available spectrum between 3.7 GHz and 4.2 GHz. This would constrain supply and drive up prices. He believes the C-Band proposal would also allow the satellite companies to raise prices of the remaining 300 MHz in the spectrum if they choose to sell it later. In contrast, a public auction by the FCC could make 370 MHz available through a public auction. “The C-Band Alliance proposal will ... put us on track to losing the race to 5G with China, and decrease the likelihood that rural areas of our country will benefit from this mid-band spectrum,” he wrote.

U.S. Sen. Steve Daines, R-Montana, and U.S. Rep. Greg Gianforte, R-Montana, wrote Pai on July 25 to say that a public auction would ensure that rural residents of their state “will receive the benefits of new 5G services and applications as efficiently and quickly as possible.” They argue the C-Band Alliance plan would “limit public involvement and deprive Montana taxpayers from receiving any benefit for the use of these frequencies.” “The Commission must adopt a framework that clears the maximum amount of spectrum in an open and transparent process that benefits all Americans, provides equal consideration for urban and rural communities,” they wrote. “Such an approach provides the best and most effective path towards the expeditious and nationwide deployment of 5G.”

Many advocates are promoting the auction of most of the available spectrum in the 3.7GHz-4.2 GHz range. A letter recently sent to the FCC by the Competitive Carriers Association, America’s Communication Association and Charter Communications advocates a plan to free up at least 370 megahertz of spectrum. The FCC is expected to vote on the issue before the end of the year as it looks to help boost the growth of 5G. – **Associated Press**

You've probably heard it before: Apple has more money in the bank than any other corporation on Earth, thanks to huge profit margins on its products and a run over nearly two decades leading in the consumer technology industry. It has been called the richest, most successful company in the history of the world. But one part of that

narrative isn't true anymore: Apple no longer has the biggest financial reserves of any company on Earth.

According to a report in [Financial Times](#), that label may now be applied to a different tech giant: Alphabet, Google's parent company. As of this year's second financial quarter, Alphabet now has \$117 billion in reserve, compared to \$102 billion for Apple. However, Apple had \$163 billion in 2017, so this is just as much a story of Apple reducing its reserves as it is one of Google growing its own.

Since then, Apple has worked to reduce its liquidity in response to criticisms from investors that the company was hoarding cash. While there is some room for nuance, investors generally want to discourage companies from hoarding cash. Instead, they prefer that the money either be returned to investors in some way or invested in something that may produce a return later. Apple spent \$122 billion on stock buybacks since the beginning of 2018. It also took advantage of a one-time tax incentive to bring overseas cash back into the United States at a reduced tax rate a little over a year ago.

All of this is to say that, while platform-loyal tech enthusiasts might see this as evidence that Google is winning and Apple is losing, the reality is more nuanced. Finance professionals, in many cases, actually see holding excessively large cash reserves as a negative. Apple continues to face the challenge of reinventing itself in a world that has been more or less fully saturated with smartphones. The [company's most recent earnings report](#) showed another quarter of decline in year-over-year iPhone sales. But the losses in that quarter were made up by growth in services, wearables, and other areas.

Meanwhile, Google had a record-breaking quarter, with a reported quarterly profit of \$9.9 billion and 19% greater revenue than the same quarter the previous year. While Apple's risk for investors comes from a stagnating smartphone market, Google's comes from the threat of increased regulation and other government action. And, of course, Alphabet's umbrella covers more than just Google.

Both companies' financials are relatively healthy for now, though. And news about which tech company has the most cash in the bank doesn't carry much relevance for most consumers; it's primarily an investor concern. But how tech giants will navigate [shifting market demand](#) for certain products, [consumer outrage over privacy matters](#), the impact of [US/China trade disputes](#) on supply lines, and threats of regulation or even monopoly-busting breakups [by politicians and political candidates](#) might. So those are the stories to watch most closely. — *Ars Technica*

Gov. Tom Wolf has ordered the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Flag on all commonwealth facilities and public buildings to be lowered at half-staff to honor the victims of the mass shootings in El Paso, Texas, and Dayton, Ohio. "Frances and I are mourning an especially horrific 24 hours of gun violence in America. We're praying for the victims of El Paso and Dayton, and the two young women shot in Philadelphia over the weekend. Many ills contribute to this rising violence. We can and must take action," said Gov. Tom Wolf.

Gov. Tom Wolf expressed that the government can ban assault weapons, institute stricter background checks, target white nationalism, and promote tolerance, but it cannot accept this violence as normal. The Pa. Commonwealth flag will be lowered to half-staff

until dusk on Thursday, August 8. The United States flag has already been ordered to half-staff during this time. All Pennsylvanians are invited to participate in this tribute. – **KDKA TV/AM, Pittsburgh**



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