

TMUS/S and C-Band Skirmishes on Many Fronts; Plus Quick Takes on Contribution Reform and Cert Battle Foreshadowing Conservative Rift on Net Neutrality Preemption

By [Blair Levin](#) | October 27, 2019

The news this week causes us to think about the movie [An American Tail](#), an animated feature in which the activities of immigrant mice^[fnote]The protagonist mouse's family is from Ukraine. Coincidence? Yes. But in DC these days, it would not surprise us if some thought otherwise.^[/fnote] below deck mirror the activities of humans on the boat above also seeking safe harbor in the United States in 1885. The reason? This week in the nation's capital there was a steady stream of new data points in the main story that were just setting up the big event that will happen in December.^[fnote]We trust we don't have to explain this.^[/fnote] So in our world, below deck, there was a steady stream of news, some important,^[fnote]That is, something similar to Ambassador Taylor's testimony, in that they will be relevant in December.^[/fnote]some merely odd,^[fnote]That is, something similar to a number of members of Congress protesting being excluded from a meeting that a large number of them were in fact allowed into, in that that event and other things that happened in our space will be irrelevant in December.^[/fnote]which are just setting up the big events in December.^[fnote]If you don't read much in the newspapers about the merger trial, slated to begin on December 9, or the FCC C-Band decision, currently slated (we are told) for the December 12 meeting, it may be because we think the first few weeks of December will be dominated by the public House hearings on impeachment. Again, our issues will be in the metaphoric deck below.^[/fnote]

In this weekend update, we discuss these, including the implications for the TMUS/S deal of Colorado shifting sides, a DOJ filing in the Tunney Act Review, and DISH's third 5G RFP, as well as a follow-up on Arm licensing to Huawei. We also note that TMUS and S should be announcing a deal extension or renegotiation this week. On the C-Band side we discuss a number of Congressional activities, some curious Eutelsat and DISH filings, and briefly summarize the call we had last week on legal risks to an FCC decision.

We close with some quick takes on early signs that Contribution Reform will be on the agenda in the next few years, and some conservative Justices on the Supreme Court suggesting they too disagree with the legal rationale for the FCC's failed effort to preempt states from regulating on net neutrality.

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