

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July, 9 2007

The Honorable Kevin J. Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As Members of Congress dedicated to homeland security and improving our nation's public safety communications, we write to express our support for a safe and fiscally responsible process to govern the upcoming 700 MHz auction for valuable public spectrum.

We appreciate the Commission's effort to bring broadband capability to the 24 MHz spectrum that Congress allocated for public safety use in the Digital Television Transition and Public Safety Act of 2005, and believe that the pending auction of spectrum in the 700 MHz band will accomplish that goal while generating billions of dollars in revenue for the Treasury. However, we urge you to ensure that the rules the FCC crafts to govern the 700 MHz auction do not impose burdensome and unnecessary "open access" regulations on licensees that might jeopardize the potential of public safety interoperable communications.

The spectrum auction process enacted by Congress and implemented by the Commission has developed a track record of success in the wireless industry for over a decade. As a result, wireless licenses were granted to entities that provided billions of dollars in proceeds for the U.S. Treasury and made efficient use of spectrum as determined by the market during this time.


These auctions were successful due to an FCC governed process that did not saddle licensees with burdensome regulations. We believe these successful auctions are instructive, and urge the Commission to critically view proposals that; 1) impose "open access" rules that dictate how licensees must manage their networks; 2) subject licensees to pricing regulation that might reduce license value; 3) provide bidding credits to potential licensees that want to exclusively provide wholesale service using the spectrum.

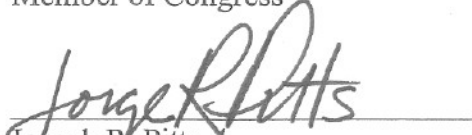
Any such proposal might reduce potential Federal revenue, pose a potential risk to interoperable public safety communications, and run counter to the goals of the organized public safety community.

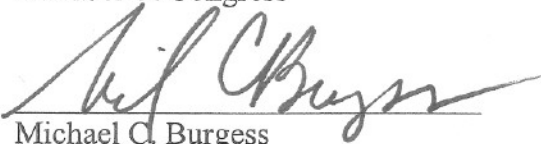
Thank you for your consideration of our views on this matter. We urge you to ensure that the 700 MHz auction ensures a successful creation of an interoperable public safety communication system in a fiscally responsible manner.

Sincerely,


Marsha Blackburn
Member of Congress

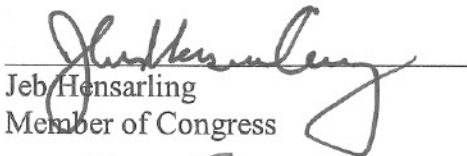

Ralph M. Hall
Member of Congress


Joseph R. Pitts
Member of Congress



Michael C. Burgess
Member of Congress



Lamar S. Smith
Member of Congress



John R. Carter
Member of Congress

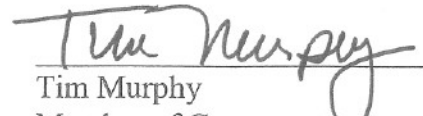

Jeb Hensarling
Member of Congress

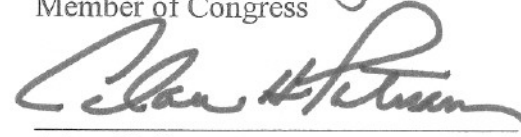

Tom Feeney
Member of Congress


Trent Franks
Member of Congress


Joe Wilson
Member of Congress


Dan Boren
Member of Congress

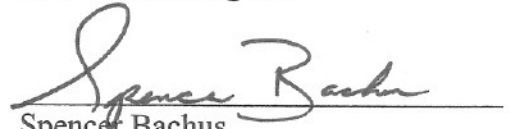

Tim Murphy
Member of Congress


Adam H. Putnam
Member of Congress



Zach Wamp
Member of Congress

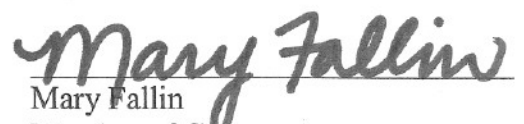

Pete Sessions
Member of Congress


Kay Granger
Member of Congress


Spencer Bachus
Member of Congress


Phil Gingrey
Member of Congress


Jo Ann Davis
Member of Congress


Mary Fallin
Member of Congress

Frank D. Lucas

Frank D. Lucas
Member of Congress

Jeff Miller

Jeff Miller
Member of Congress

Jim Jordan

Jim Jordan
Member of Congress

Kenny Marchant

Kenny Marchant
Member of Congress

Ron Lewis

Ron Lewis
Member of Congress

Gary G. Miller

Gary G. Miller
Member of Congress

Steve Chabot

Steve Chabot
Member of Congress

Peter J. Roskam

Peter J. Roskam
Member of Congress

Randy Neugebauer

Randy Neugebauer
Member of Congress

Brian P. Bilbray

Brian P. Bilbray
Member of Congress

Connie Mack

Connie Mack
Member of Congress

Louie Gohmert

Louie Gohmert
Member of Congress

Adrian Smith

Adrian Smith
Member of Congress

K. Michael Conaway

K. Michael Conaway
Member of Congress

Scott Garrett

Scott Garrett
Member of Congress

Virgil H. Goode Jr.

Virgil H. Goode Jr.
Member of Congress

Timothy Walberg

Timothy Walberg
Member of Congress

Michael T. McCaul

Michael T. McCaul
Member of Congress

cc: Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein
Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell