

SHELLEY BERKLEY
1ST DISTRICT, NEVADA

405 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-5965
FAX: (202) 225-3119
shelley.berkley@mail.house.gov

2340 PASEO DEL PRADO
SUITE D106
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89102
(702) 220-9823
FAX: (702) 220-9841
www.berkley.house.gov

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2801

December 18, 2009

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The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

2100

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I'm writing in response to the Commission's November 25th notice that invited proposals from entities seeking to be designated TV Band Device Database Managers. To the extent that this notice is intended to provide robust interference protection for incumbent broadcast and wireless microphone transmissions in the TV Band, I am pleased to see progress being made at the Commission.

However, I am concerned that some of the white space device stakeholders who have provided recent comment to the Commission view database eligibility in an unduly narrow fashion. To suggest that database eligibility be contingent on existing licensed operation in the Band is to, in effect, jeopardize the professional audio quality at arenas, stadiums, theaters, and Houses of Worship across the country. Audio interference at a theater performance, a concert, or at a corporate convention is unacceptable, yet these are very real risks unless the Commission adopts a more reasoned and thoughtful view of database eligibility, including eligibility for several categories of professional wireless microphone use.

At a minimum, I would strongly recommend that the Commission extend database eligibility to wireless microphone operations at arenas, convention centers, education facilities, government facilities, houses of worship, lodging facilities, stadiums, and theaters.

Ultimately, I share the Commission's view that broadband deployment is a critical driver to economic growth in this country. In reaching this objective, however, adopting policies that would do significant production harm to the content that is delivered over these broadband devices makes little sense and could cause irreparable harm to regional economies, like Las Vegas, that are largely dependent on live entertainment for jobs and economic activity.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Carrie Fiarman in my office at (202)225-5965 or carrie.fiarman@mail.house.gov. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


SHELLEY BERKLEY
Member of Congress