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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3816

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COMMITTEE ON
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TOM LANTOS HUMAN RIGHTS
COMMISSION

ASSISTANT REPUBLICAN WHIP

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

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Dear Chairman Genachowski:

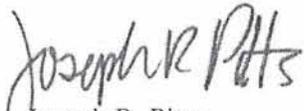
As the co-chairmen of the Congressional Electronic Warfare Working Group, we write to express our views regarding the importance of the electromagnetic spectrum to our national security.

As you know, the spectrum is fundamental to military operations, and spectrum availability is essential to existing and emerging technologies in electronic warfare, network-centric operations, communications systems, satellite resources, and multi-spectral sensors. Further, during military operations, our adversaries seek to use the spectrum to damage our forces. In Iraq and Afghanistan, as one example, our failure to control the spectrum allowed insurgents to inflict casualties using Radio-Controlled Improvised Explosive Devices. It is essential for the Armed Forces to have reliable access to the spectrum so they can conduct realistic training exercises involving electronic warfare and make appropriate long-term investments in spectrum-dependent technologies.

We understand the potential economic value of our nation's spectrum and voted in favor of H.R. 3125, the Radio Spectrum Inventory Act, to require the Federal Communications Commission to conduct a comprehensive spectrum inventory. As you move forward with an inventory of our nation's spectrum and prepare recommendations regarding its potential reallocation, we ask that you take into account the importance of spectrum to military training and operations.

We look forward to working with you, and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our offices.

Sincerely,


Joseph R. Pitts
Member of Congress


Rick Larsen
Member of Congress