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October 7, 2011

*MB
LPFM
1400*

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


Dear Chairman Genachowski:

As the Federal Communications Commission moves forward with implementation of the Local Community Radio Act, I would like to applaud the Commission on its efforts to preserve channels for low power radio nationwide. While the Commission's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is an important step forward, giving local schools, churches, governments, and non-profit organizations an opportunity to provide locally-originated programming, I am writing to encourage the Commission to ensure the "market test" for translator applications truly addresses the needs of diverse urban areas, particularly medium-sized markets, such as Louisville, Kentucky.

As the founder and former columnist of a local weekly independent newspaper, I know the importance of strong local media in our communities. That is why I urge the Commission to utilize a methodology that more narrowly assesses the availability of low power FM (LPFM) in urban areas. I want my community, as well as other towns and cities across the country, to benefit from the ability of LPFM to connect and educate the public, provide rapid information during emergencies, and enhance cultural diversity.

Thank you for the Commission's continued efforts to expand licensing of LPFM radio stations in communities nationwide, and I appreciate your attention to this request.

Sincerely,


John Yarmuth
Member of Congress

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