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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

**STEVE ISRAEL**

Second District, New York

Received & Inspected  
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SEP 28 2012  
FCC Mail Room  
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September 21, 2012

The Honorable Julius Genachowski  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

CC: Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

I am writing to express my concern for the spectrum changes mandated by the public radio frequency portion of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act that will undoubtedly affect first responders in my district and all across the nation.

The Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 states that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) shall reallocate the spectrum currently used by public safety eligibles, often referred to as T-Band spectrum, and begin a competitive bidding process to grant new initial licenses for the use of the T-Band spectrum. The Act also states that the auction proceeds from the competitive bidding process shall be available to the Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information at the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to make grants in such sums as necessary to cover the relocation costs of public safety entities from the T-Band spectrum.

The concern of many first responders in my district is that the new equipment, which needs to be purchased in order to relocate from the T-Band spectrum to D-Block spectrum, will not be sufficiently covered. This could also potentially put the citizens they serve at risk.

*PST/B*  
*Pub Safety*  
*Radio*  
*1269*

I respectfully ask that the fifteen member board within the NTIA that is tasked with managing all aspects of the auction process carefully consider the cost of new equipment and work with local first responders in each state to ensure that all necessary costs are being met in order to make the transition as safe and smooth as possible. I would also ask that the NTIA continue to work with Congress and other stakeholders in order to ensure that the interests of frontline fire fighters and first responders are protected during this process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Israel" with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Steve Israel  
Member of Congress