

Congress of the United States

U.S. House of Representatives

Committee on Small Business

2361 Rayburn House Office Building

Washington, DC 20515-6515

WTB
0224

February 26, 2012

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

**Re: Federal Communications Commission, Aviation Communications; Proposed Rule,
77 Fed. Reg. 6276 (January 30, 2013) WT Docket No. 01-289; FCC 13-2**

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

On January 30, 2013, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) published a request for comments on the aforementioned proposed rule to phase out and prohibit the certification, manufacture, importation, sale or use of 121.5 MHz Emergency Locator Transmitters (ELTs). Additionally, the FCC requests comments on whether the manufacturers, importers, sellers, and users of 121.5 MHz ELTs are small entities, and the extent to which a total or partial prohibition of 121.5 MHz ELTs might impose burdens on them.

It has come to my attention that a number of trade associations representing the general aviation (GA) community, including: Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association; General Aviation Manufacturing Association; National Air Transportation Association; and Experimental Aircraft Association have requested a 60-day extension of the comment period for this proposed rule. As Chairman of the Committee on Small Business, I am concerned that affected small businesses have not had enough time to offer meaningful and substantive comments by the March 1, 2013 deadline. Given the impact these changes would have on the GA industry, the majority of which are small businesses, the Commission should look favorably on this request for a 60-day extension for comments.

Please include these comments for the record. Should you have any questions about these comments, please do not hesitate to contact Joe Hartz of the Committee Staff at (202) 225-5821.

Sincerely,



Sam Graves
Chairman

Cc: Hon. Robert McDowell, Commissioner, FCC
Hon. Mignon Clyburn, Commissioner, FCC
Hon. Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner FCC
Hon. Ajit Pai, Commissioner, FCC