



OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

August 20, 2015

The Honorable G.K. Butterfield  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2305 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Butterfield:

Thank you for your letter urging the Commission to preserve the 600 MHz duplex gap for use by wireless microphones in all markets. The Commission adopted new rules on August 5, 2015, to address the long-term needs of wireless microphone users by providing for continued access to the 600 MHz band and expanding access to other bands. The new rules specifically will allow all Part 74 licensed microphone users to operate in a 4-megahertz portion of the 600 MHz duplex gap (*i.e.*, broadcasters, cable programming networks, movie studios, and operators at major sporting/concerts/theater venues). The Commission may need to place a broadcaster in the duplex gap in a limited number of markets. However, the Commission sought comment on preserving an additional vacant television channel for use by wireless microphones and white space devices should this occur.

The rules also provide new opportunities for licensed microphone users. In the TV bands, they will be allowed greater use of the VHF channels and co-channel operation inside digital TV contours without coordination if TV signals fall below specified thresholds. The new rules also will allow licensed microphone users to operate on a secondary basis in three additional spectrum bands, consistent with the Commission's spectrum management goals: (1) access to significantly more spectrum in the 900 MHz band; (2) access to a portion of the 1435-1525 MHz band at specified times and places, subject to coordination requirements that protect critical aeronautical mobile telemetry; and (3) access to portions of the 6875-7125 MHz band.

Together with the rules also adopted by the Commission regarding unlicensed wireless microphone use of the 600 MHz band, these new rules provide for efficient sharing of the TV and 600 MHz bands to accommodate various wireless microphone users, while continuing to protect the licensed users of each of the bands. I appreciate your interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tom Wheeler".

Tom Wheeler



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WASHINGTON

August 20, 2015

The Honorable Tony Cárdenas  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1508 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Cárdenas:

Thank you for your letter urging the Commission to preserve the 600 MHz duplex gap for use by wireless microphones in all markets. The Commission adopted new rules on August 5, 2015, to address the long-term needs of wireless microphone users by providing for continued access to the 600 MHz band and expanding access to other bands. The new rules specifically will allow all Part 74 licensed microphone users to operate in a 4-megahertz portion of the 600 MHz duplex gap (*i.e.*, broadcasters, cable programming networks, movie studios, and operators at major sporting/concerts/theater venues). The Commission may need to place a broadcaster in the duplex gap in a limited number of markets. However, the Commission sought comment on preserving an additional vacant television channel for use by wireless microphones and white space devices should this occur.

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Tom Wheeler



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WASHINGTON

August 20, 2015

The Honorable Bobby L. Rush  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2268 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Rush:

Thank you for your letter urging the Commission to preserve the 600 MHz duplex gap for use by wireless microphones in all markets. The Commission adopted new rules on August 5, 2015, to address the long-term needs of wireless microphone users by providing for continued access to the 600 MHz band and expanding access to other bands. The new rules specifically will allow all Part 74 licensed microphone users to operate in a 4-megahertz portion of the 600 MHz duplex gap (*i.e.*, broadcasters, cable programming networks, movie studios, and operators at major sporting/concerts/theater venues). The Commission may need to place a broadcaster in the duplex gap in a limited number of markets. However, the Commission sought comment on preserving an additional vacant television channel for use by wireless microphones and white space devices should this occur.

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Tom Wheeler