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For Immediate Release

**FCC IMPROVES TRANSLATOR INTERFERENCE COMPLAINT AND
RESOLUTION PROCESS**

WASHINGTON, May 9, 2019—The Federal Communications Commission today adopted a Report and Order that streamlines and improves the FM translator interference complaint and resolution process.

FM translator stations rebroadcast the signal of an AM or FM station. The increasing number of FM translator stations, as well as their growing economic importance for AM and digital FM stations, has led to industry interest in improving the rules governing FM translator interference complaints. Currently, even one listener complaint, at any distance from the desired FM station, can result in an FM translator station having to cease operations. Moreover, there are often prolonged disputes over the validity of the interference claim.

Today's Order provides additional certainty and reduces the costs and burdens of the existing interference claim and resolution process by:

- Allowing translator operators to change frequency to any available same-band channel as a minor change in response to interference issues
- Establishing a minimum number of listener complaints, proportionate to the population the complaining station serves, that a station would need to submit with any claim of interference
- Standardizing the contents of each listener complaint
- Establishing interference resolution procedures that permit, but do not require, complaining listeners to cooperate with remediation efforts, and implementing an alternative, technically-based process for demonstrating that interference has been resolved
- Establishing an outer contour limit for actionable interference complaints while allowing waivers of that limit for interference complaints that meet specified criteria

Action by the Commission May 9, 2019 by Report and Order (FCC 19-40). Chairman Pai, Commissioners O'Rielly, Carr, Rosenworcel, and Starks approving. Chairman Pai, Commissioners O'Rielly, Carr, and Starks issuing separate statements.

MB Docket No. 18-119

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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).