

May 14, 2020

The Honorable Ajit Pai
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Pai:

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to expand access to high-speed broadband across the United States. We understand that as part of this activity the Commission intends to relocate users of existing commercial C-Band satellite spectrum in order to facilitate national 5G rollout and that up to \$15 billion in federal funds is available to reimburse these companies for “reasonable costs” of moving. Because airwaves are national resources that belong to and must ultimately serve the American people, we encourage you to institute a domestic spending requirement when determining what relocation costs are considered “reasonable” for reimbursement.

To move their operations, affected satellite companies must purchase and launch new spacecraft to orbit. The United States has a robust and diverse domestic commercial space market that can meet this need today. However, foreign satellite manufacturers and launch services providers are attempting to unfairly undercut American competition for these contracts through state subsidization or outright state-ownership. This action could result in billions of U.S. tax dollars intended to benefit the American public instead flowing overseas, which could harm the U.S. space sector and negatively impact critical national security and civil space objectives.

A domestic spending requirement would permit reimbursement for satellites used in this effort that are built in the U.S. and for launches of these satellites that occur from U.S. soil. This sensible approach would protect against foreign interference, would support the national interest by keeping nearly \$15 billion within our borders, and would invest in America’s industrial base, which would be particularly beneficial during the ongoing public health crisis and economic downturn.

Thank you for your timely consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,



Bill Posey
Member of Congress



Charlie Crist
Member of Congress



Bill Flores
Member of Congress