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HOUSE REPUBLICAN WHIP TEAM

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-4313**

July 18, 2022

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The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman, Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street NE  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel,

Early last year the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) granted a notice of proposed rulemaking (Docket 20-443) to investigate whether new rights could be given away in the highly-used 12 GHz band of spectrum. This proposed action has been strongly opposed by many people in the state of Texas due to the possibility that this would result in a loss of service for functions like high-speed satellite internet. The prospect of current users being subject to harmful interference is deeply concerning, especially given the significant technical evidence that seems to indicate that such interference is unavoidable if the FCC moves forward.

The 12 GHz band is heavily utilized, with operators cooperating on a non-interference basis to ensure maximum use of the band. Technologies like satellite-based internet can be utilized in a variety of ways, such as connecting the rural parts of my district to the internet and bridging the digital divide. Satellite-based high-speed internet can be utilized in these rural areas to provide one of the best solutions for telemedicine and telehealth services, and in connecting our nation's veterans with the care they need.

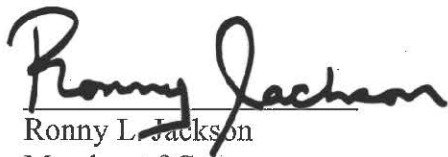
As a Member of the House Armed Services and Foreign Affairs Committees, I believe there are also strong national security implications of satellite-based internet. These capabilities have been on display in Ukraine, providing communication support for the Ukrainian military in their opposition to the Russian invasion. In a recent article published by the Financial Times, it was noted that after seeing these capabilities on display in Ukraine, China has been increasing its awareness of the utility and efficacy of low-earth orbit satellites that help bolster communication systems during war. Chinese military officials have even gone as far as planning for a scenario in which the United States or Taiwan utilize these satellites to counter malign Chinese behavior and support Taiwan's independence. If advancements in these communications systems improve our ability to compete and win in a conflict in China, it is imperative that such development is not hindered.

Millions of Americans stand to benefit if these new technologies continue expanding at their current rate. If the FCC decides to rollback this progress by giving away new rights within the 12 GHz band, thousands of people in Texas and across the country would be harmed. The

technical record to date is clear that coexistence between low-powered satellite communications and high-powered two-way mobile communication within the band is not feasible. It is unclear why the FCC hasn't closed this proceeding and maintained the current structure operating in the 12 GHz band, especially given the positive progress made in recent years to close the digital divide, through the rapid expansion of next-generation technologies, and the potential national security implications involved.

I appreciate your attention to this issue and look forward to hearing from you on this important policy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronny Jackson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "R" at the beginning.

Ronny L. Jackson  
Member of Congress