



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0523**

June 17, 2022

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The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel,

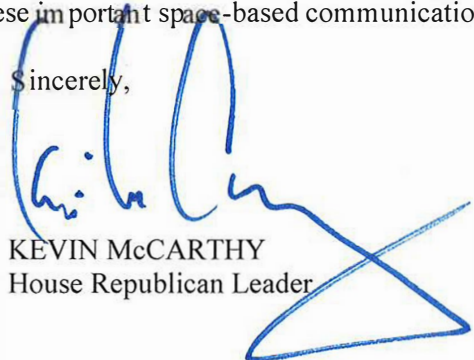
I write to urge the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) to carefully consider the impact terrestrial operations could have on the incumbent services deployed in the 12 GHz band.

The Commission has an opportunity to maintain America's commercial and strategic leadership in space, including by ensuring that American space operators maintain access to essential spectrum. As you know, global competitors like China are working tirelessly to overtake America's edge in space and communications technology. At present, the United States maintains the lead over China and other strategic competitors and adversaries—but we cannot be complacent. As such, I encourage the Commission to complete its work relating to the lengthy still-open proceeding on 12 GHz and rely on the technical record of the proceeding so as not to disrupt the significant innovation and investment made by satellite operators in the 12 GHz band.

As one of the key agencies overseeing the commercial space industry, the Commission has an obligation to ensure the U.S. does not lose ground to those who would undermine this critical industry. America's strong bipartisan commitment to space has created a flourishing commercial space sector that our adversaries envy and that provides our nation key economic and national security advantages. The next-generation satellite broadband systems are becoming the broadband infrastructure of the future to connect otherwise unserved people across the country and around the world. In just a few years since the Commission licensed systems in the 12 GHz band, America has seen unprecedented deployment on a global scale. Nevertheless, the unusual length of this proceeding injects a concerning degree of uncertainty in the license conditions incumbent satellite operators expect when making significant investments in these services.

The 12 GHz band is critical to these next-generation satellite services, and our competitors have taken note. Around the world, other countries like China are attempting to build their own networks in an attempt to unseat American leadership. I urge the Commission to carefully balance the need to encourage American innovation and ensure all Americans have broadband no matter where they are when evaluating whether terrestrial services can coexist with these important space-based communications services.

Sincerely,

  
KEVIN McCARTHY  
House Republican Leader