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July 6, 2022

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

Dear Chair Rosenworcel,

I write to raise concerns with the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) proceeding regarding the wireless internet spectrum that could disrupt critical service for millions of Americans, including many in my district, should it move forward. This Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for Docket 20-443, "Expanding Flexible Use of the 12.2-12.7 GHz Band," poses a potential threat to Americans in rural and remote areas currently benefitting from high-speed wireless internet provided by the band. The FCC should do everything in its power to ensure that a plan does not move forward that could result in interference for existing wireless internet customers.

High-speed internet is a necessary feature and essential service for work, school, healthcare, and countless other daily activities. Tens of thousands of Californians are already benefitting from high-speed satellite internet, which is especially useful in areas that are hard to reach or have been historically underserved. This is the case in Big Sur, which is difficult to serve with terrestrial systems due to the rugged geography of the area. Next-generation satellite internet provides an ideal solution, as it does for many remote and rural communities across the United States.

For a year and a half, the FCC has been considering whether to disrupt the carefully shared system currently governing the 12 GHz band by granting new rights for speculative technologies. However, the FCC made clear that the petitioners asking for new rights had to submit technical parameters for the new technologies they propose to deploy and would have to demonstrate that non-interference with current users was possible. Neither of these requirements has been met. As the petitioners' own filings admit, this coexistence is not possible.<sup>1</sup> The record in front of the FCC is clear: new high-power rights within the 12 GHz band would cause massive disruptions in service for consumers currently benefitting from the band.

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<sup>1</sup>"[C]oncurrent sharing of spectrum between co-primary 5G and NGSO FSS operations is not viable in the 12 GHz Band." Letter from Alison Minea to Marlene H. Dortch, IBFS File No. SAT-MOD-20180319-00022 and Docket No. RM-11768, at 3 (Dec. 2, 2019).

I hope you will consider these potential ramifications as you continue to investigate repurposing the 12 GHz band. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Panetta', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Jimmy Panetta  
Member of Congress