

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4311

August 09, 2022

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

Chair Rosenworcel,

High-speed, low-latency satellite broadband provides critical connectivity to Americans in rural and remote communities across the country. I appreciate the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) ongoing efforts to expand access to this important service for millions of Americans who might otherwise be left behind in the digital divide. As you review proposals to open the 12 GHz band for terrestrial use, I respectfully urge you to ensure that any actions you undertake do not result in harmful interference that could degrade or eliminate non-geostationary satellite orbit (NGSO) broadband transmissions.

Many of my constituents rely on NGSO broadband to connect to the Internet for remote learning, telehealth, e-commerce, and more. For example, the Ector County Independent School District has partnered with a provider to deliver free, high-speed Internet service to families that previously completely lacked affordable internet access.¹ This technology is essential for the wellbeing and prosperity of the communities that I represent.

Beyond domestic connectivity, these satellite services provide an important capability to bolster both our and our strategic allies' national security enterprises. As a Member of the House Committee on Homeland Security and the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, I am acutely aware of the importance of secure, global connectivity with unfettered access to reliable information.

¹ Mike Adkins, "SpaceX / Starlink / The Future Has Arrived," Ector County ISD. October 20, 2020.
<https://www.ectorcountysisd.org/SpaceX>.

The 12 GHz spectrum is one that millions of Americans rely on and is a critical tool in the defense arsenal. I urge you to not take any steps that could harm this access as you engage in your review of the 12GHz band for terrestrial use.

Thank you for your understanding and attention on this consequential matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "August 12". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first part being "August" and the second part being "12".

Member of Congress