



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

October 25, 2022

The Honorable Jeff Duncan  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2229 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Duncan:

Thank you for your letter regarding the pending proceeding at the Federal Communications Commission that seeks comment on whether to modify our rules to allow FM broadcast stations to use FM booster stations to air geo-targeted content. I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

In order to enhance the agency's technical understanding of this technology, the Media Bureau granted stations experimental authority to conduct tests in radio markets in Mississippi and California. It also required that those stations submit reports regarding the tests into the record of the proceeding. The reports include detailed technical discussions about the operation of the booster technology, its compatibility with the Emergency Alert System, and its impact on digital FM broadcasts. On April 18, 2022, the Bureau issued a Public Notice seeking comment on the results of these tests, as well as any additional information submitted after the original comment periods closed on March 12, 2021. The period for comment on the Public Notice closed on June 21, 2022. The Media Bureau staff currently is reviewing the record and developing recommendations for the full Commission's consideration. I have asked the Bureau to insert your letter in the docket of the proceeding so your views will be fully considered.

In addition to concerns about interference and the impact on public safety notifications, your letter also focuses on concerns about the impact of this technology on rural communities and whether broadcasters who utilize the technology would choose to target only affluent areas at the expense of more rural areas. GeoBroadcast Solutions (GBS), and other proponents of this technology, including small and minority broadcasters, assert that this technology will help minority and low-income communities by reducing the cost of advertising and providing opportunities for new advertising entrants that were previously priced out of the market. The opponents of geo-targeted broadcasts have filed comments questioning the validity of claims that this technology will provide new opportunities for minorities and new entrants and raised concerns about the ability of broadcasters to use this technology to focus certain programming and advertising only on affluent areas. Before moving forward, the Commission will carefully review the potential impact of this technology, including whether our existing rules provide any protections that would apply to this technology.

Please be assured that, as we work through the comments and data submitted in this proceeding and determine our next steps, the Commission takes seriously our role in protecting against harmful interference and ensuring access to essential public safety information through the Emergency Alert System. I hope this is helpful. Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

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Jessica Rosenworcel



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

October 25, 2022

The Honorable Richard Hudson  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2112 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Hudson:

Thank you for your letter regarding the pending proceeding at the Federal Communications Commission that seeks comment on whether to modify our rules to allow FM broadcast stations to use FM booster stations to air geo-targeted content. I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

In order to enhance the agency's technical understanding of this technology, the Media Bureau granted stations experimental authority to conduct tests in radio markets in Mississippi and California. It also required that those stations submit reports regarding the tests into the record of the proceeding. The reports include detailed technical discussions about the operation of the booster technology, its compatibility with the Emergency Alert System, and its impact on digital FM broadcasts. On April 18, 2022, the Bureau issued a Public Notice seeking comment on the results of these tests, as well as any additional information submitted after the original comment periods closed on March 12, 2021. The period for comment on the Public Notice closed on June 21, 2022. The Media Bureau staff currently is reviewing the record and developing recommendations for the full Commission's consideration. I have asked the Bureau to insert your letter in the docket of the proceeding so your views will be fully considered.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

October 25, 2022

The Honorable Fred Upton  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2183 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Upton:

Thank you for your letter regarding the pending proceeding at the Federal Communications Commission that seeks comment on whether to modify our rules to allow FM broadcast stations to use FM booster stations to air geo-targeted content. I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

In order to enhance the agency's technical understanding of this technology, the Media Bureau granted stations experimental authority to conduct tests in radio markets in Mississippi and California. It also required that those stations submit reports regarding the tests into the record of the proceeding. The reports include detailed technical discussions about the operation of the booster technology, its compatibility with the Emergency Alert System, and its impact on digital FM broadcasts. On April 18, 2022, the Bureau issued a Public Notice seeking comment on the results of these tests, as well as any additional information submitted after the original comment periods closed on March 12, 2021. The period for comment on the Public Notice closed on June 21, 2022. The Media Bureau staff currently is reviewing the record and developing recommendations for the full Commission's consideration. I have asked the Bureau to insert your letter in the docket of the proceeding so your views will be fully considered.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

October 25, 2022

The Honorable Greg Pence  
U.S. House of Representatives  
211 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Pence:

Thank you for your letter regarding the pending proceeding at the Federal Communications Commission that seeks comment on whether to modify our rules to allow FM broadcast stations to use FM booster stations to air geo-targeted content. I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

In order to enhance the agency's technical understanding of this technology, the Media Bureau granted stations experimental authority to conduct tests in radio markets in Mississippi and California. It also required that those stations submit reports regarding the tests into the record of the proceeding. The reports include detailed technical discussions about the operation of the booster technology, its compatibility with the Emergency Alert System, and its impact on digital FM broadcasts. On April 18, 2022, the Bureau issued a Public Notice seeking comment on the results of these tests, as well as any additional information submitted after the original comment periods closed on March 12, 2021. The period for comment on the Public Notice closed on June 21, 2022. The Media Bureau staff currently is reviewing the record and developing recommendations for the full Commission's consideration. I have asked the Bureau to insert your letter in the docket of the proceeding so your views will be fully considered.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

October 25, 2022

The Honorable Bill Johnson  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2336 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Johnson:

Thank you for your letter regarding the pending proceeding at the Federal Communications Commission that seeks comment on whether to modify our rules to allow FM broadcast stations to use FM booster stations to air geo-targeted content. I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

October 25, 2022

The Honorable Neal Patrick Dunn  
U.S. House of Representatives  
316 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Dunn:

Thank you for your letter regarding the pending proceeding at the Federal Communications Commission that seeks comment on whether to modify our rules to allow FM broadcast stations to use FM booster stations to air geo-targeted content. I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

In order to enhance the agency's technical understanding of this technology, the Media Bureau granted stations experimental authority to conduct tests in radio markets in Mississippi and California. It also required that those stations submit reports regarding the tests into the record of the proceeding. The reports include detailed technical discussions about the operation of the booster technology, its compatibility with the Emergency Alert System, and its impact on digital FM broadcasts. On April 18, 2022, the Bureau issued a Public Notice seeking comment on the results of these tests, as well as any additional information submitted after the original comment periods closed on March 12, 2021. The period for comment on the Public Notice closed on June 21, 2022. The Media Bureau staff currently is reviewing the record and developing recommendations for the full Commission's consideration. I have asked the Bureau to insert your letter in the docket of the proceeding so your views will be fully considered.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

October 25, 2022

The Honorable David B. McKinley  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2239 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative McKinley:

Thank you for your letter regarding the pending proceeding at the Federal Communications Commission that seeks comment on whether to modify our rules to allow FM broadcast stations to use FM booster stations to air geo-targeted content. I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

In order to enhance the agency's technical understanding of this technology, the Media Bureau granted stations experimental authority to conduct tests in radio markets in Mississippi and California. It also required that those stations submit reports regarding the tests into the record of the proceeding. The reports include detailed technical discussions about the operation of the booster technology, its compatibility with the Emergency Alert System, and its impact on digital FM broadcasts. On April 18, 2022, the Bureau issued a Public Notice seeking comment on the results of these tests, as well as any additional information submitted after the original comment periods closed on March 12, 2021. The period for comment on the Public Notice closed on June 21, 2022. The Media Bureau staff currently is reviewing the record and developing recommendations for the full Commission's consideration. I have asked the Bureau to insert your letter in the docket of the proceeding so your views will be fully considered.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

October 25, 2022

The Honorable Debbie Lesko  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1214 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Lesko:

Thank you for your letter regarding the pending proceeding at the Federal Communications Commission that seeks comment on whether to modify our rules to allow FM broadcast stations to use FM booster stations to air geo-targeted content. I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

In order to enhance the agency's technical understanding of this technology, the Media Bureau granted stations experimental authority to conduct tests in radio markets in Mississippi and California. It also required that those stations submit reports regarding the tests into the record of the proceeding. The reports include detailed technical discussions about the operation of the booster technology, its compatibility with the Emergency Alert System, and its impact on digital FM broadcasts. On April 18, 2022, the Bureau issued a Public Notice seeking comment on the results of these tests, as well as any additional information submitted after the original comment periods closed on March 12, 2021. The period for comment on the Public Notice closed on June 21, 2022. The Media Bureau staff currently is reviewing the record and developing recommendations for the full Commission's consideration. I have asked the Bureau to insert your letter in the docket of the proceeding so your views will be fully considered.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

October 25, 2022

The Honorable Billy Long  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2454 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Long:

Thank you for your letter regarding the pending proceeding at the Federal Communications Commission that seeks comment on whether to modify our rules to allow FM broadcast stations to use FM booster stations to air geo-targeted content. I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

In order to enhance the agency's technical understanding of this technology, the Media Bureau granted stations experimental authority to conduct tests in radio markets in Mississippi and California. It also required that those stations submit reports regarding the tests into the record of the proceeding. The reports include detailed technical discussions about the operation of the booster technology, its compatibility with the Emergency Alert System, and its impact on digital FM broadcasts. On April 18, 2022, the Bureau issued a Public Notice seeking comment on the results of these tests, as well as any additional information submitted after the original comment periods closed on March 12, 2021. The period for comment on the Public Notice closed on June 21, 2022. The Media Bureau staff currently is reviewing the record and developing recommendations for the full Commission's consideration. I have asked the Bureau to insert your letter in the docket of the proceeding so your views will be fully considered.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

October 25, 2022

The Honorable Tim Walberg  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2266 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Walberg:

Thank you for your letter regarding the pending proceeding at the Federal Communications Commission that seeks comment on whether to modify our rules to allow FM broadcast stations to use FM booster stations to air geo-targeted content. I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

October 25, 2022

The Honorable Morgan Griffith  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2202 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Griffith:

Thank you for your letter regarding the pending proceeding at the Federal Communications Commission that seeks comment on whether to modify our rules to allow FM broadcast stations to use FM booster stations to air geo-targeted content. I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

In order to enhance the agency's technical understanding of this technology, the Media Bureau granted stations experimental authority to conduct tests in radio markets in Mississippi and California. It also required that those stations submit reports regarding the tests into the record of the proceeding. The reports include detailed technical discussions about the operation of the booster technology, its compatibility with the Emergency Alert System, and its impact on digital FM broadcasts. On April 18, 2022, the Bureau issued a Public Notice seeking comment on the results of these tests, as well as any additional information submitted after the original comment periods closed on March 12, 2021. The period for comment on the Public Notice closed on June 21, 2022. The Media Bureau staff currently is reviewing the record and developing recommendations for the full Commission's consideration. I have asked the Bureau to insert your letter in the docket of the proceeding so your views will be fully considered.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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OFFICE OF THE  
CHAIRWOMAN

October 25, 2022

The Honorable Earl L. Carter  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2432 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Carter:

Thank you for your letter regarding the pending proceeding at the Federal Communications Commission that seeks comment on whether to modify our rules to allow FM broadcast stations to use FM booster stations to air geo-targeted content. I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

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CHAIRWOMAN

October 25, 2022

The Honorable Larry Bucshon  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2313 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Bucshon:

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