
**STATEMENT OF
CHAIRMAN BRENDAN CARR**

Re: *FCC Seeks Comment on Proposed Application Limit for New Noncommercial Educational Reserved Band FM Translator Station Applications in Upcoming 2026 Window*, MB Docket No. 26-20, Public Notice (February 18, 2026)

Today, we take steps to launch the *first-ever* filing window for FM translator stations in the band reserved for noncommercial radio service. The FM translator service was created over 50 years ago, but this window will mark the first opportunity for noncommercial FM, LPFM, and AM stations to obtain new FM translator stations. This will particularly benefit educational broadcasters, to allow them to extend the programming their stations provide to the public and reach remote, rural, and underserved communities.

Today, we seek comment on how to tailor this upcoming window. We explore eligibility requirements and application limits to prevent gamesmanship and preserve the airwaves for future local and community focused services. I look forward to seeing the positive results of this unique window and the continued growth of noncommercial service in the FM band.

For their great work on this item, I'd like to thank Jim Bradshaw, Joseph Cohen, Lisa Scanlan, Al Shuldiner, Joe Price, Erin Boone, and Amy Van de Kerckhove from the Media Bureau.