

U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

February 9, 2012

The Honorable Dave Camp, Chairman
Committee on Ways and Means
U.S. House of Representatives
1102 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Max Baucus, Chairman
Committee on Finance
U.S. Senate
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Camp and Chairman Baucus:

We are writing regarding the possible inclusion of spectrum policy in the extension of the payroll tax legislation. Smart spectrum policy will drive the next generation of wireless broadband, creating new economic opportunities for the telecommunications and technology ecosystem. These provisions will have a dramatic impact on our nation's wireless future and benefit many stakeholders, including public safety, small businesses, educators, and consumers. While there are many important spectrum policy goals, today we're writing to urge you to preserve the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) flexibility to use some of the "beachfront" spectrum recovered from voluntary incentive auctions for unlicensed use.

Some of the most significant innovations in wireless communications, such as Wi-Fi and Bluetooth, were born in spectrum bands with no exclusive license. Collectively, unlicensed devices help generate an estimated \$16-37 billion per year for the U.S. economy. Even our nation's largest wireless service providers use unlicensed spectrum to reduce congestion on their network, with experts suggesting that more than one-third of their data traffic today is off-loaded onto Wi-Fi networks.

Exploring the use of beachfront spectrum, specifically in the television band, is vital given its ability to penetrate buildings, enhance rural coverage, and carry more data traffic than traditional Wi-Fi. Yet today, within the frequencies best suited for mobile broadband services, there is more than five times as much spectrum available for licensed use as there is for unlicensed use. From Plumas, California to Logan, Ohio, entrepreneurs and small businesses are working with leaders in key sectors of the U.S. economy, such as health care, education and energy to develop wireless hotspots, medical patient monitoring, smart grid and other innovative applications that use unlicensed spectrum found in the television band.

Spectrum policy must recognize that both licensed and unlicensed spectrum in the television band maximizes the economic benefits of wireless broadband. With a balanced approach to spectrum policy, we can unlock billions of dollars in private investment, new innovations, job creation, and economic growth. Thank you for considering these views.

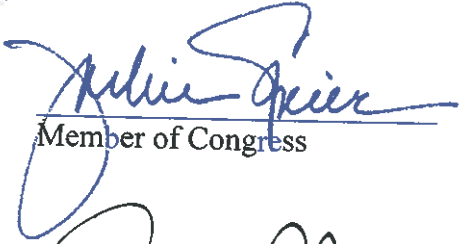
Sincerely,



Member of Congress



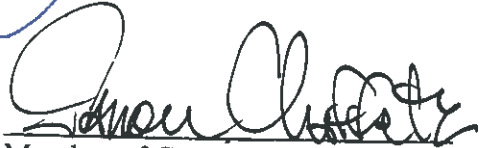
Member of Congress



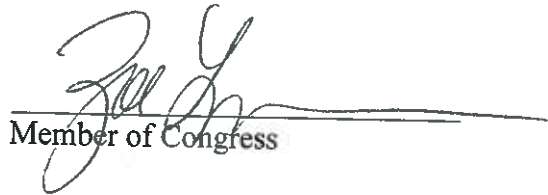
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Anita DeBette
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Lucille Roybal-Allard
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Ernie Miller
Member of Congress

Joe Baca
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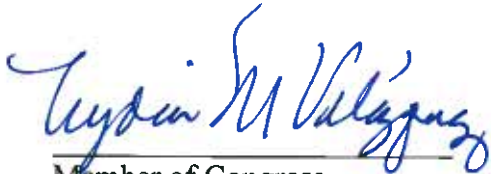
Jim Matheson
Member of Congress

Tommy Davis
Member of Congress

Bob Menendez
Member of Congress

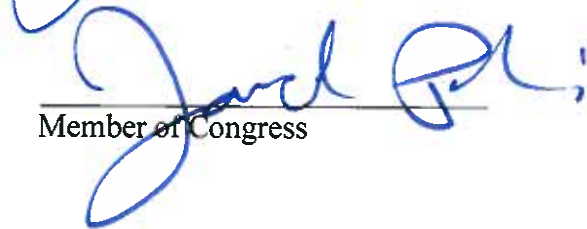
John E. Clyburn
Member of Congress
John Garamendi

Jim McHenry
Member of Congress


Member of Congress



Member of Congress

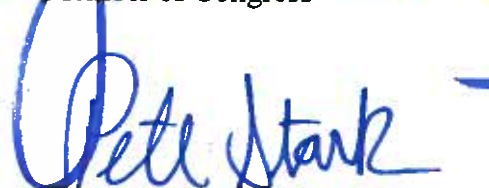

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cc: Senator Ben Cardin
Senator Bob Casey Jr.
Senator Jack Reed
Senator Jon Kyl
Senator John Barrasso
Senator Mike Crapo
Representative Fred Upton
Representative Tom Price
Representative Nan Hayworth
Representative Tom Reed
Representative Kevin Brady
Representative Greg Walden
Representative Renee Ellmers
Representative Xavier Becerra
Representative Sander Levin
Representative Chris Van Hollen
Representative Allyson Schwartz
Representative Henry Waxman

Member Signatories

Rep. Anna G. Eshoo

Rep. Darrell Issa

Rep. Joe Baca

Rep. Lois Capps

Rep. Dennis Cardoza

Rep. Jason Chaffetz

Rep. Donna Christensen

Rep. Judy Chu

Rep. James Clyburn

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Rep. Diana DeGette

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Rep. Maxine Waters

Rep. Lynn Woolsey