



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

October 26, 2015

The Honorable Bobby L. Rush
U.S. House of Representatives
2268 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Rush:

Thank you for your letter supporting the Commission's proceeding to revitalize AM radio service, and expressing concern for the impact of minority-owned stations without an application window for FM translators limited to AM licensees. Your views are very important to me.

With the leadership of Commissioner Clyburn, we have reached a compromise that prioritizes assisting Class C and Class D stations, which are the most technically challenged stations in the AM band. Under this compromise, stations will be able to choose from two options for relief.

First, stations looking for immediate relief can partner with an existing FM translator up to 250 miles away, seeking approval under our minor modification rules. The first modification window – for Class C and D stations only – will begin in January 2016, after an outreach effort to educate station owners about the opportunities and choices that this window will provide. After the first modification window, a second modification window will open for all AM stations for three months.

Second, the item also now includes an AM-only auction window for Class C and D stations that will begin mid-2017, after the incentive auction and other auction events. Subsequent to this C and D window, an auction will be held for all AM Radio stations.

This compromise is responsive to the action requested in your letter, and we believe that it will help ensure the longevity of AM stations. The modification window option will get translators in the hands of AM station owners who most need them by early next year. For those stations that can wait, the addition of the auction window after the 2017 incentive auction gives AM stations another opportunity to enhance their audience reach by providing clearer signal reception. This tiered approach that provides relief to Class C and D stations first is the kind of common sense compromise that serves the public interest.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

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Tom Wheeler



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OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

October 26, 2015

The Honorable David Scott
U.S. House of Representatives
225 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Scott:

Thank you for your letter supporting the Commission's proceeding to revitalize AM radio service, and expressing concern for the impact of minority-owned stations without an application window for FM translators limited to AM licensees. Your views are very important to me.

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Tom Wheeler



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OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

October 26, 2015

The Honorable Stacey Plaskett
U.S. House of Representatives
509 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Plaskett:

Thank you for your letter supporting the Commission's proceeding to revitalize AM radio service, and expressing concern for the impact of minority-owned stations without an application window for FM translators limited to AM licensees. Your views are very important to me.

With the leadership of Commissioner Clyburn, we have reached a compromise that prioritizes assisting Class C and Class D stations, which are the most technically challenged stations in the AM band. Under this compromise, stations will be able to choose from two options for relief.

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Tom Wheeler



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OFFICE OF
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October 26, 2015

The Honorable Donald M. Payne
U.S. House of Representatives
103 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Payne:

Thank you for your letter supporting the Commission's proceeding to revitalize AM radio service, and expressing concern for the impact of minority-owned stations without an application window for FM translators limited to AM licensees. Your views are very important to me.

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Tom Wheeler



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October 26, 2015

The Honorable Brenda Lawrence
U.S. House of Representatives
1237 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Lawrence:

Thank you for your letter supporting the Commission's proceeding to revitalize AM radio service, and expressing concern for the impact of minority-owned stations without an application window for FM translators limited to AM licensees. Your views are very important to me.

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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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October 26, 2015

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
U.S. House of Representatives
1339 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Jeffries:

Thank you for your letter supporting the Commission's proceeding to revitalize AM radio service, and expressing concern for the impact of minority-owned stations without an application window for FM translators limited to AM licensees. Your views are very important to me.

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October 26, 2015

The Honorable Marcia L. Fudge
U.S. House of Representatives
2344 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Fudge:

Thank you for your letter supporting the Commission's proceeding to revitalize AM radio service, and expressing concern for the impact of minority-owned stations without an application window for FM translators limited to AM licensees. Your views are very important to me.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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October 26, 2015

The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings
U.S. House of Representatives
2235 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Cummings:

Thank you for your letter supporting the Commission's proceeding to revitalize AM radio service, and expressing concern for the impact of minority-owned stations without an application window for FM translators limited to AM licensees. Your views are very important to me.

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Tom Wheeler



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October 26, 2015

The Honorable Yvette D. Clarke
U.S. House of Representatives
2351 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Clarke:

Thank you for your letter supporting the Commission's proceeding to revitalize AM radio service, and expressing concern for the impact of minority-owned stations without an application window for FM translators limited to AM licensees. Your views are very important to me.

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October 26, 2015

The Honorable André Carson
U.S. House of Representatives
2453 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Carson:

Thank you for your letter supporting the Commission's proceeding to revitalize AM radio service, and expressing concern for the impact of minority-owned stations without an application window for FM translators limited to AM licensees. Your views are very important to me.

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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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THE CHAIRMAN

October 26, 2015

The Honorable G.K. Butterfield
U.S. House of Representatives
2305 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Butterfield:

Thank you for your letter supporting the Commission's proceeding to revitalize AM radio service, and expressing concern for the impact of minority-owned stations without an application window for FM translators limited to AM licensees. Your views are very important to me.

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Tom Wheeler



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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

October 26, 2015

The Honorable Karen Bass
U.S. House of Representatives
408 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Bass:

Thank you for your letter supporting the Commission's proceeding to revitalize AM radio service, and expressing concern for the impact of minority-owned stations without an application window for FM translators limited to AM licensees. Your views are very important to me.

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