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COMMITTEES:
COMMERCE, SCIENCE,
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June 1, 2016

The Honorable Thomas Wheeler, Chairman
The Honorable Mignon Clyburn
The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel
The Honorable Ajit Pai
The Honorable Michael O'Rielly
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Spectrum
Allocation
received & inspected
JUN 13 2016
FCC Mail Room

Re: GN Docket No. 14-177, Use of Spectrum Bands Above 24 GHz For Mobile Radio Services; RM-11768, Petition for Rulemaking to Permit MVDDS Use of the 12.2-12.7 GHz Band for Two-Way Mobile Broadband Service

Dear Chairman Wheeler and Commissioners:

I write today asking the Commission to issue a Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FNPRM) that considers the possibility of extending Multichannel Video Distribution and Data Service (MVDDS) spectrum licensees the ability to use their 12.2-12.7 GHz holdings for 5G mobile broadband service.

5G mobile broadband service is the connectivity standard of the future. It will be significantly faster than existing 4G LTE technology, connect the ever-expanding Internet of Things, and provide more consistent coverage in rural and urban areas alike, among other benefits.

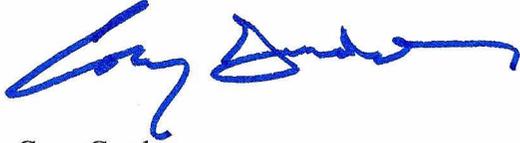
Given the possibility of such substantial improvements to mobile broadband, countries including the United Kingdom, Japan, and South Korea are actively working to deploy 5G networks faster than the United States, thereby endangering our position as the global leader in mobile communications connectivity. To date, dozens of American companies have invested considerable effort and resources into keeping the United States at the forefront of mobile broadband technology—I commend those ongoing investments.

As we confront these mounting connectivity challenges, however, I believe the Commission should explore as many feasible options as possible for transitioning to 5G in order to keep the United States internationally competitive. That is why I am asking the Commission to issue this FNPRM at the meeting where it considers the pending Spectrum Frontiers proceeding, while taking care to address any potential interference concerns that may arise with the use of 12.2-12.7 GHz spectrum for 5G service.

The United States must continue to lead the world in the next generation of 5G technology. I look forward to the Commission's efforts to ensure we remain at the forefront of the mobile

communications revolution and thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my Washington, D.C. office at (202) 224-5941.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Cory Gardner", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Cory Gardner
United States Senator