



November 1, 2018

Representative Greg Walden  
Chair  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Senator John Thune  
Chair  
Committee on Commerce, Science and  
Transportation  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Representative Frank Pallone  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Senator Bill Nelson  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Commerce, Science and  
Transportation  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Thune, Senator Nelson, Representative Walden and Representative Palone:

On behalf of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), I am writing to express our support for H.R. 5085/S. 3347, the Don't Break Up the T-Band Act.

As you know, the spectrum in the T-Band (470-512 MHz) is used by law enforcement and other public safety entities in and around eleven metropolitan areas of the United States to support critical public safety communications and provide regional interoperability among first responders. These areas are Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C.

Unfortunately, Section 6103 of Public Law 112-96 (The Spectrum Act) directs the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to begin auctioning the public safety T-Band spectrum for commercial use by February 22, 2021 and clear all public safety operations from the band within 2 years of auctions close (i.e., by early 2023). Significantly, while the Spectrum Act does allow the auction revenue to be used to cover costs

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Montclair State University, NJ,  
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James McLaughlin, Jr.  
General Counsel/Executive Director,  
Texas Police Chiefs Association

**Executive Director /  
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Alexandria, VA

**Deputy Executive Director /  
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Alexandria, VA

associated with relocation, the act does not specify any replacement spectrum or ensure auction revenues will be sufficient to fund the relocation.

Given the importance of this issue and its potential impact on public safety, the National Public Safety and Telecommunication Council (NPSTC) concluded that loss of the T-Band spectrum resource would be particularly problematic for public safety in the Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, New York and Philadelphia metropolitan areas. In addition, the NPSTC report determined that the relocation of public safety communications systems in all eleven metropolitan areas to alternative spectrum, if it is even available, would cost at least an estimated \$5.9 billion.

It is for these reasons that the IACP strongly supports H.R. 5085/S. 3347 which would repeal of section 6103 of P.L. 112-96 to allow public safety to continue using the T-Band spectrum (470-512 MHz) to accomplish its mission of providing emergency services to over ninety (90) million citizens.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul M. Cell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and "C".

Paul M. Cell  
IACP President