

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

July 20, 2007

The Honorable Deborah Taylor Tate  
Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

**Re:    Unlicensed Devices in the "White Spaces"**  
**ET Docket No. 04-186**

Dear Madam Commissioner:

As sponsors of H.R. 1320, the Interference Protection for Existing Television Band Devices Act of 2007, we are writing to urge you to proceed on the above-referenced matter with caution, making absolutely certain that wireless microphones and other existing services in the band are wholly protected from interference before any unlicensed devices are authorized to operate in the so-called "white spaces"


The "white spaces" are generally incorrectly perceived to be vacant and unused frequencies. In cities like Chicago and Nashville, however, we can assure you that the Band is not "white," not vacant, and is, rather, very congested.

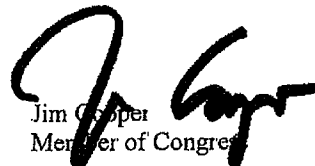
Take, for example, the country music live entertainment industry in Nashville. The Grand Ole Opry reports that "these new mobile devices would very likely cause irreparable interference at all Opry productions." The Country Music Association stressed that they are concerned that there's a lack of appreciation in Washington regarding "how difficult RF management is in regions where live entertainment is a hub for local economic activity." The American Federation of Musicians probably put it best when they said "interference by such a flood of unlicensed devices could render our musical artists' audio systems unusable, especially in major urban locales where the spectrum is already dense with wireless transmissions."

As you know, Nashville's country music industry shares their white spaces concerns with Broadway Theaters, professional and collegiate sports, religious broadcasters, labor organizations for entertainers and newscasters, and dozens of other groups.

We urge you to take these reasoned and experienced views into full account as the Commission moves forward in its deliberations.

Sincerely,

  
Bobby L. Rush  
Member of Congress

  
Jim Cooper  
Member of Congress