

November 9, 2017

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: *Ex Parte* Presentation, GN Docket No. 14-177; IB Docket Nos. 15-256 & 97-95;
RM-11664; and WT Docket No. 10-112

Dear Ms. Dortch:

American Airlines files this *ex parte* letter to express support for continued primary satellite access to the long-designated satellite service frequency bands in the Q/V bands (40-42/48.2-50.2 GHz), as well as flexible satellite broadband access in the other parts of the Q/V bands designated for terrestrial use. As in-flight broadband demand grows, as explained below, American Airlines and our satellite broadband partners will need access to more spectrum, just like terrestrial providers, to meet consumer demand.

American Airlines is the world's largest airline, employing more than 120,000 team members and offering 6,700 flights per day to 350 destinations in more than 50 countries. Last year, we carried 198,714,575 passengers, with an average of nearly 545,000 passengers per day who travel on American Airlines. American Airlines currently operates over 1200 connected aircraft and has plans to equip over 600 of those aircraft with satellite connectivity within the next two years.

American Airlines relies on services from satellite companies, like ViaSat, and other providers, to enable us to offer the connectivity that our passengers increasingly demand. It is important to American that there are choices for such services, as this ensures that we can always provide the best product at the most attractive prices for our onboard customers. Similarly, we expect that the demand for cost-effective and reliable airborne broadband service will continue to increase. This growth will demand more and more bandwidth for higher speeds and data throughput requirements in the cabin, and for this to occur, it is necessary for our wifi providers to have continued primary and flexible access to the Q/V bands to meet growing demand.

We urge the Commission to take adequate steps to ensure that our passengers continue to have airborne access to cost-effective, reliable and fast broadband through our satellite partners.

Sincerely,



John Beavers

