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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Dennis DeConcini
United States Senate
328 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator DeConcini:

This is in reply to your letter of January 27, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of your constituent, Mark Baker, regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Those rules have been in place for over 20 years. While they have been amended on numerous occasions since that time, they nonetheless embody regulatory concepts based on yesteryear's technology and, unless changed, will stifle the growth and development of private land mobile radio technology and services, which are used primarily by local governments, public safety entities, and businesses to enhance their productivity. The Commission issued the Notice, therefore, to solicit comment from all interested persons on a wide variety of proposals designed to increase channel capacity, to promote more efficient use of these channels, and to simplify the rules governing use of these channels.

The proposals in the Notice reflect to a large extent concepts and proposals submitted in the initial inquiry stages of this proceeding. None of the proposals set forth in the Notice, however, are engraved in stone. Indeed, the proposals represent our best judgment at this stage of the proceeding on steps that must be taken to improve the regulatory climate for users of the private land mobile radio spectrum below 512 MHz. To this end, some of the critical issues that must be resolved relate to channel spacing, the amount of time provided to users to convert to new technical standards, how the 300 to 500 percent increase in channel capacity should be licensed, how the rules should be written to provide users technical flexibility, and whether the current nineteen radio services should be consolidated and, if so, how. I have enclosed for your information a copy of that part of the Notice that describes the numerous proposals.

Mr. Baker is specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

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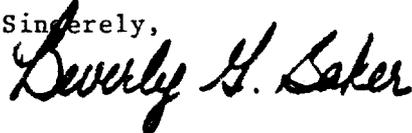
Honorable Dennis DeConcini

2.

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take into careful consideration all their comments. Your constituent's concerns will be fully evaluated when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Comments on the proposals set forth in the Notice are due February 26, 1993, and Reply Comments are due April 14, 1993. We expect final rules to be issued near the end of 1993. We urge your constituent to file formal comments on all aspects of the proposals.

Sincerely,



Ralph A. Haller
Chief, Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures:
Notice
Discussion paper

Congressional

DUE: 2-10-93

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS,
AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

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LETTER REPORT

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9300361	02/02/93	01/27/93	02/15/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Senator	Dennis DeConcini	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
Mark Baker	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRB/num 2-3-93			
DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
02/02/93			

REMARKS: Respond to the attention of Ms. Susan D. Scott.

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DENNIS DeCONCINI
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United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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January 27, 1993

The attached inquiry from:

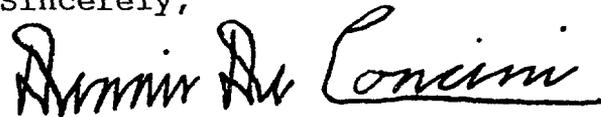
Mark Baker
2650 N. Oracle #1016
Tucson, AZ 85705

is respectfully referred to:

FCC

Your comments regarding this matter will be most appreciated.

Sincerely,



DENNIS DeCONCINI
United States Senator

Please reply to:

The Honorable Dennis DeConcini
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

attention: Ms. Susan D. Scott

RECEIVED
FEB 3 3 21 1993
PRIVATE

The Honorable Dennis DeConcini
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Sir:

I am writing to you concerning Federal Communications Commission Notice of Proposed Rule Making PR Docket 92-235. This rule has a section concerning Part 95 of the Code of Federal Regulations that is of serious interest to me for several reasons - one of them being safety.

I fly radio-controlled model aircraft. NPRM PR 92-235 proposes the placing of multiple commercial-use frequencies between those allocated by the FCC for R/C use. These new frequencies can be used on mobile equipment and as such present an extreme danger. Normally there is little risk involved in this hobby and accidents are few, but the interference possibilities introduced by this bill will change that. If this ruling is enacted, a pilot may lose control of a plane any time one of the new transmitters began broadcasting within range of the pilot. The planes we fly are relatively large and fly at significant speeds. Loss of control could result in serious injury for a person struck by a "runaway" plane.

The technology required to upgrade our radios to where they could reject the more powerful signals on the new frequencies is not available. Estimates on cost if it became available are many times the present cost of our radios and will kill the hobby - a hobby that introduces many (including children) to technology, aerospace, and engineering professions.

Many American businesses manufacture or distribute items for R/C use (kits, radios, engines, accessories, etc.) and there is a significant economic impact to the Tucson area itself. This will all end if NPRM PR 92-235 is enacted.

I respectfully ask that you help us protect our frequencies, preserve our present levels of safety, and keep this action from killing the hobby, by helping to defeat NPRM PR 92-235.

Very truly yours,

Mark Baker

Mark Baker
2650 N Oracle #1016
Tucson, AZ 85705

Dennis D
United States Senate