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**RACES**

**Emergency Coordinator**

**Mountain District**

**07/11/98**

Secretary of the FCC  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Secretary,

Regarding RM-9267 under consideration for removing the frequencies 420 through 430MHz and 444 through 450MHz from Amateur Radio bands.

Here in the mountains of California, we rely on the 70cm amateur band for emergency communications. The California Department of Forestry (CDF), the U.S. Forest Service and Riverside County Fire's Emergency Services Division (ESD) all look to our R.A.C.E.S. organization for communications support.

Losing a valuable range of frequencies will limit our ability to selectively use uncluttered channels of communication, be it voice or data transmissions, during any type of emergency. Emergencies abound in the U.S., as seen this year. The Amateur Radio Service has always been ready to help and has provided invaluable communications support throughout the years. We will continue to do so with the FCC's support in matters such as this.

I, and the R.A.C.E.S. members of the District the I lead, ask that your commission NOT take the listed 70cm frequencies away from the amateur community. In any frequency sharing agreement, other than those already in existence, amateur radio and our emergency communications will be sure to be the loser to commercial users.

Sincerely;

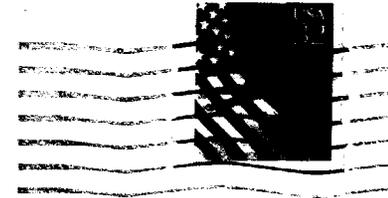


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Washington, DC 20554

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