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SUBCOMMITTEE ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT
ELECTION LAW AND CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM
JUDICIARY I
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH

Wednesday, December 17, 2014

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

Re: PS Docket No. 07-114

Dear Secretary Dortch:

I am privileged to Chair the Judiciary Committee in the North Carolina House. In that capacity, I frequently deal with issues surrounding overall public safety and the many challenges often faced by our first responders. Obviously, these brave men and women need to be able to respond to emergency situations as quickly as possible.

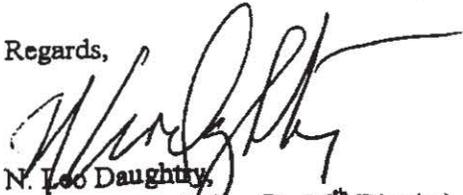
Similarly, if you or one of your loved ones has reason to call 9-1-1, we want to know that police or firefighters can get there as soon as possible. While our first responders are highly trained to know how to handle an emergency situation, civilians are not. When facing an imminent threat or other emergency situation, it is difficult to provide accurate data in a timely fashion. Put another way, a civilian calling 9-1-1 often has great difficulty providing accurate location information to the operator. That is why I am writing you today.

As you are aware, presently, if someone calls 9-1-1 from a mobile phone, it is not likely that location information is provided to the 9-1-1 operators. However, with the FCC's recent proposal, **we now have the opportunity to resolve this major shortcoming in the emergency response systems and substantially improve indoor location accuracy standards for cell phone calls to 911. No deals or compromises are justifiable.** It is time to give our dispatchers the resources they need.

A call to 9-1-1 emergency services is already fraught with challenges. Navigating high stress situations day in and day out is a job that few can or want to do. We should support our dispatchers and emergency personnel so they can do their jobs as best they can. Unfortunately, we have instead allowed their technology to lag behind the times and cell phone providers are combating implementation of these life-saving changes at every turn.

In a time where nearly every app can determine your location, it is disconcerting that emergency services cannot find us when we seek their help. Please give emergency personnel the tools they need to keep us safe, and reject anything short of the FCC's proposal that will update the standards for the indoor location accuracy of mobile emergency calls. Please enact and enforce your proposal to update these location accuracy standards.

Regards,



N. Leo Daughtry,
State Representative (R, 26th District)

Cc: Senator Richard Burr
Senator-Elect Thom Tillis
Chairman Tom Wheeler
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel
Commissioner Ajit Pai
Commissioner Michael O'Rielly
RADM David Simpson
Daniel Alvarez, Legal Advisor to Chairman Wheeler
David Goldman, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Rosenworcel