

Dear FCC:

The Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing supports the Wireless Access Coalition to have the FCC re-open the Petition for Rule Making in the Matter of Section 68.4(a) of the Commission's Rules, Hearing Aid-Compatible Telephones.

Since 1995, when the FCC first directed that wireless manufacturers coordinate with hard of hearing consumers and other affected, hearing health professionals and manufacturers, nothing much has happened to comply with the Hearing Aid Compatibility Act of 1988, 47 U.S.C. Section 610(a) or Section 255 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, 47 U.S.C. Section 255.

There has been little movement on the part of manufacturers to provide effective hearing aid compatibility to digital wireless telephones. Such non-movement continues to exclude the hard of hearing from access to digital wireless phones in violation of the above mentioned 1988 and 1996 laws. It is time to implement the rule making process.

Sincerely,
Jeannine R. Dusombre, MCDHH, Counsel