

11B 07-57

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

MB
XM
Sirius
1976

Re: Application for Authority to Transfer Control of XM Radio Inc. and Sirius
Satellite Radio Inc., MB Docket No. 07-57

Dear Chairman Martin:

After much deliberation, I am writing to voice my support for the pending merger of Sirius Satellite Radio Inc. and XM Radio Inc. I believe that this merger will improve the variety and quality of satellite radio services to consumers.

I have carefully considered the proposal, attended our committee hearings, and I do not take this decision lightly. I have heard all of the testimony and the pros and cons and feel that ultimately the merger has to be looked at in the context of the totality of entertainment choices that consumers have available to them. With the advent of the IPOD, downloading, HD Radio and the like, I believe that you cannot isolate pay radio as its own medium.

Right now a customer desiring pay radio must choose between the two companies and select programming rather than having access to all channels. This often results in a consumer being unable to get some desired programs. The merger will allow subscribers to get all the programs they wish to hear, which is often not possible and feasible currently.

As with any situation, there are good points on both sides. But on balance, I believe that the FCC should complete its review of this transaction to allow Sirius and XM to proceed with their merger plans.

Sincerely,

Eliot L. Engel

Eliot L. Engel
Member of Congress

cc: Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein
Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell