

RE: Protect Live Music!

Jerry Ballard  
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The Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear The Federal Communications Commission:

I am writing to urge you to consider live musicians as you think about the impacts of opening wireless frequencies. The current proposal could cause harm to live musicians, companies that manufacture wireless music products, and everyone else who has a stake in supporting live musicians. Harmful interference could hinder the performance of live music in public schools, universities, churches, performing arts centers, outdoor arenas and countless bars and restaurants across the country.

I am the Technical Director at a church in Plant City. We currently have about \$15,000 invested in wireless microphones that are integral to our weekly operation. If the current proposal is allowed to move forward, we will lose the investment we have made in this technology. More importantly, our services will be adversely affected. It seems that the FCC is being led down the primrose path by a few corporate giants that have no stake in what will happen if these "White Space" devices are allowed to proliferate as they are currently being designed. Imagine doing a Fundraising Campaign without the use of a wireless microphone. Imagine watching a football game in which the referee is no longer able to announce from the field what is happening. Wireless microphones are now as ubiquitous as cell phones at a large variety of events. I am not discounting the usefulness of these "White Spaces" devices. I am just asking that more effort be put into protecting the current users of this public resource. For years, we have been considered "Secondary Users"

of this spectrum. We are just asking that our current use remain protected. There are proposals from various sources that would allow for this protection. I am asking that you would use due diligence in examining these alternatives before any decisions are made.

Please think about the interests of live musicians and all who support them as you consider this proposal. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jerry L. Ballard, Jr.

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Director of Technical Ministries

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