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STEVE HODGES
State Representative
District 161

February 28, 2012

Mr. Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Room 8-B201
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

I represent the 161st District in Missouri, which consists of several small towns and communities in southeast Missouri. As you are well aware, there continues to be a significant digital divide in this country where urban areas have faster and more reliable access to high-speed internet than the more rural parts of our state.

I understand that a company called LightSquared is trying to launch a 4G LTE broadband wireless network which will bring state-of-the-art high-speed Internet to wireless devices in rural Missouri. This would be a tremendous asset to my district and my constituents. However, in order for this network to become a reality, the FCC must take a leadership role to make this proposed network a reality.

From what I have learned, the FCC has indicated that LightSquared can't operate next to spectrum used by GPS devices. I am confident there is a technical solution to this technical

problem. GPS is very important to rural Missouri, but so is wireless broadband access.

The FCC is the governing body for this type of dispute and I encourage the Commission to find a way to allow LightSquared to move forward. The stakes are too high to let this American company's proposed network slip by.

As you well know, LightSquared has the ability to quickly bring online a nationwide 4G wireless broadband network that will help our country avoid a spectrum crisis that is leading to soaring consumer costs, decreasing wireless service, decreasing competitiveness with other countries with a better wireless infrastructure, and an increased digital divide that I mentioned earlier.

As Chairman of the FCC, I hope you will use your power and oversight to see that both GPS and LightSquared can be utilized by the millions of Americans who desperately need it.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Steve Hodges
State Representative
District 161

cc: The Honorable Roy Blunt
The Honorable Claire McCaskill
The Honorable Jo Ann Emerson
The Honorable Lawrence Strickling, NTIA