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I am writing these comments on behalf of myself and my rock band STARS IN STEREO, but also on behalf of all independent musicians and artists who currently use wireless equipment in the 600MHz range during live performances. The upcoming auction will effectively render our equipment unusable, and will require us to replace otherwise perfectly fine gear at significant cost to us. This financial burden will come at a time when we are already struggling to maintain our careers due to ever increasing fuel costs and the reduced record sales across the entire music industry. We barely break even as it is. We represent a true American small business category that often goes overlooked. By touring all over, we benefit each and every local economy of the markets we visit. Local music venues, equipment rental, restaurants, bars, hotels; all benefit from what we do. We have played concerts in 46 states so far. The cost of replacing our 600MHz wireless equipment (specifically Sennheiser B band 626-668MHz) would hypothetically be approx \$5650.00. That is assuming new compliant equipment will cost the same. That is cash that I simply do not have.

The proposed incentives for current licensed TV broadcasters demonstrate the FCC understands the value of this spectrum to those that currently use it, and that proper compensation is due. I feel that we have been overlooked yet again (in reference to the loss of our 700MHz equipment in 2008) as a group of users that are due reasonable compensation for equipment replacement. Admittedly, we have been using these frequencies without a formal license, and have been taking advantage of unused spectrum as available, but I do not believe that justifies ignoring our plight outright. The current licensees for the most part paid little to nothing for the original use of their channels decades ago. Now they stand to reap a windfall by a technicality. I believe that the airwaves belong to all of us as our birthright as US citizens. I do believe in the government's duty to regulate and license its use on our behalf (a broadcasting free-for-all would be a clusterfuck disaster), however musicians unlicensed use over the last several decades has established our interest in finding reasonable solutions without causing interference. By effectively looking the other way during that time, the FCC has established a precedent of unofficial acceptance. We have a strong desire to be fully compliant in the changing spectrum landscape. All we ask is for help in making the upfront investment in compliant technology.

What I propose is a voucher system to turn in our current functioning equipment to be recycled. The vouchers would go towards at least partially the cost of new compliant equipment. To avoid abuse, I suggest requiring verification of professional use in order to qualify. We tour full time and our schedule is easily verified, and we can provide affidavits to verify the use of our current equipment.

When compared to the tens of billions of dollars that this auction stands to bring in and the huge amounts that current broadcasters will be able to get for giving up their licenses, our request for 5G shouldn't seem unreasonable. Help keep us on the road!

PS - Don't judge me by the 90210 zip code, this is just the place I crash at when not on the road. It's the closest thing I have to a permanent residence.