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January 27, 2011

The Hon. Julius Genachowski  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, Southwest  
Washington, D.C. 20554-0005

Dear Hon. Genachowski:

In response to concerns raised by public safety agencies that are finding it difficult to directly and reliably reach citizens with emergency information, I am submitting the following for comment on Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (10-203).

Some 1,500 Travelers Information Stations (TIS) currently operate nationwide, including in such key Michigan locations as the Mackinac Bridge, Detroit Metro Airport and Detroit's international bridge crossing.

The presence of this valuable public asset affords a key opportunity to present to the traveling public an array of safety information and aid in the protection of lives and property. Unfortunately, current FCC rules regarding these stations severely limit the public safety content allowed on the stations to only that which pertains to traffic and travel-related advisories.

Recognizing the critical importance of additional safety threats such as Amber Alerts, National Weather Service announcements, power outages and 9-1-1 outages, I strongly encourage the FCC to expand its current TIS rules to better adapt to the overall safety needs of our citizens.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my comment. I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

  
Bill Huizenga  
Member of Congress