

September 10, 2025

The Honorable Brendan Carr Chairman Federal Communications Commission 45 L St. NE Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Carr,

The historic passage of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA) cuts taxes, supercharges the economy, spurs manufacturing, and puts the United States in a position of leadership for high-tech and wireless innovation. As you know, the OBBBA directs the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to auction and reallocate a total of 800 MHz of new spectrum for commercial use. This provision is expected to bring in tens of billions of dollars in revenue and catapult wireless and broadband innovation and deployment in the United States. As the FCC works to implement the OBBBA, we urge you to work with all stakeholders to find a balanced approach to increasing spectrum availability while also protecting existing uses and users of specific spectrum bands.

In establishing a wide range of frequencies to be considered by the FCC for commercial spectrum, Congress was intentionally broad in its definitions of covered bands to ensure the FCC had the flexibility to choose the best spectrum for auction. Accordingly, the Commission should review and make its spectrum allocation decisions in a manner that advances the public interest and ensures that services used by consumers and businesses have sufficient spectrum to meet those needs. The Commission must strike a balance between increased access to spectrum for new uses and minimizing disruption to existing uses. In making its future spectrum designations, we urge the FCC to standby its previous spectrum decisions, commitments and allocations, and avoid disruption to existing uses of spectrum. In particular, the FCC should ensure that existing operations in the 3.55-3.70 GHz band, commonly known as the Citizens Broadband Radio Service (CBRS), and in the 6 GHz band for unlicensed uses, can continue operating without disruption. Providing protection for existing uses, including General Authorized Access (GAA) and Priority Access Licenses (PALs) in CBRS, and unlicensed use in the 6GHz band is critically important to provide rural broadband access, next generation Wi-Fi, and support small businesses.

Rural broadband providers, including many that are small or family owned, have made substantial investments in equipment and services centered around the use of CBRS spectrum after these providers

lawfully obtained authority and licenses from the FCC. Repurposing CBRS licenses now, or changing the technical terms of existing licenses, would upend the significant investments made in CBRS to date and leave many rural communities who rely on CBRS for broadband connectivity in the dark.

The CBRS decisions approved by the FCC under the first Trump Administration resulted in over \$4.5 billion in auction proceeds for the U.S. Treasury and more than 20,000 PAL licenses assigned to local small broadband providers, cooperatives, universities, and manufacturers. Importantly, the FCC adopted specific technical rules, including power levels and county-size license areas, allowing companies of all sizes to participate, compete for, and now use CBRS licenses. These prior CBRS decisions have proven transformative in generating competition and meeting the connectivity needs for rural America. We urge the FCC to preserve and build upon the current successes of CBRS.

Similarly, the decision to designate the 6 GHz band for unlicensed services by the FCC in the first Trump administration is already delivering for small companies and rural America. By making available spectrum for next-generation Wi-Fi the FCC cemented U.S. leadership in wireless innovation and created a much-needed pipeline of unlicensed spectrum to meet our nation's ever-growing wireless demands. For example, hospitals are using Wi-Fi for life-critical devices and to deploy ICU monitoring for improved security and patient care. Small businesses are likewise using it to power factories and deploy sensors for a wide variety of applications and monitoring. Taking away existing uses and access to the 6 GHz band would undermine innovation and economic development in this emerging sector.

In order to protect the investments, access, and innovation that the CBRS and 6 GHz bands have created under the leadership of the Trump administration, the FCC must honor its prior spectrum decisions and safeguard the existing uses in these bands. The FCC can do that while also ensuring that it takes a balanced approach to allocation decisions that meets the needs of all services. If license holders or users of specific bands no longer have the certainty that comes with prior FCC decisions and spectrum auctions, investments, innovation, and consumers will ultimately suffer the consequences.

Therefore, we respectfully request that as the FCC works to implement the historic OBBBA, it should minimize disruption to existing commercial operations and prior decisions, including those in the CBRS and 6 GHz bands. We look forward to working with you to increase American innovation, broadband and wireless deployment, and the high-tech economy

## Sincerely,

Steve Daines **United States Senator** 

Ted Budd **United States Senator** 

John Curtis

United States Senator

Bernie Moreno United States Senator

John Barrasso United States Senator

erry Moran

Jerry Moran **United States Senator** 

Roger Marshall

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Pete Ricketts

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