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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

April 3, 1999

William Kennard
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Kennard:

I am writing to request your strong support of the proposed new Low Power FM (LPFM) radio service.

Locally owned stations and locally guided programming have been disappearing since the passage of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Large corporations own our radio stations now, and it seems that in every city the musical tastes, businesses advertising, and issues are now identical. But we listening Americans know this is not true, and this lack of truth is very threatening to the freedom of speech so important to a healthy free society. The national radio media does not serve or represent its local listening constituency.

Help create a new class of radio station that will counter this monopoly of the airwaves. LPFM stations will bring localism back to the radio. We are a country of diverse and vibrant communities. We need community radio that provides a more open forum for the needs and opinions of its listenership, supports the cultural uniqueness of each area, and enables access for citizen participation and the proliferation of local voices.

Please know that the American people want and need Low Power FM radio service. Thank you for your interest and assistance.

Sincerely,



J. Mark Larter

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