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VIRGIL H. GOODE, JR.
5TH DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

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ORIGINAL
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4605

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

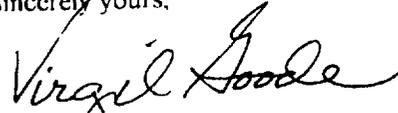
The Honorable William Kennard
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554-0001

Dear Chairman Kennard:

Please find enclosed a copy of a letter I received from Mr. Peter Easter, Executive Director of the Virginia Association of Broadcasters (VAB), regarding a proposal to allow more low power FM radio stations in Virginia. Mr. Easter and the members of the VAB are very concerned about the negative impact an even more crowded spectrum would have on current stations. I would very much appreciate your showing every consideration to the concerns of the VAB regarding this proposal to allow new FM stations. I have previously communicated my concerns about expanding low power FM stations in Virginia.

Thanks for your consideration. With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



Virgil H. Goode

VHGjr/cgt
Enclosure

cc:
Mr. Peter Easter, CAE
Executive Director
Virginia Association of Broadcasters
630 Country Green Lane
Charlottesville, Virginia 22902



Virginia Association of Broadcasters

630 Country Green Lane, Charlottesville, VA 22902
Phone: (804) 977-3716 Fax: (804) 979-2439

September 10, 1999

The Honorable Virgil Goode
United States House of Representatives
1520 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

SUBJECT: Low Power FM Proposal

Dear Virgil:

The proposal of FCC Chairman Kennard to allow a multitude of low power FM stations to be added to the already crowded spectrum is the most serious threat to Virginia radio broadcasters in the 23 years I have represented them.

It is such a serious issue that the association took the very unusual and expensive step of joining with the North Carolina Association of Broadcasters to fund an \$80,000 engineering and legal study to determine the seriousness of the proposal for Virginia stations.

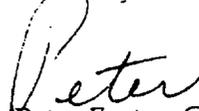
The study showed that in the rural communities where diversity is generally not a problem, as many as 30 additional radio stations would be allowed. These areas are now hardly able to support one or two small stations.

In the urban areas where diversity may be more of a problem, there are already so many stations licensed to these areas that there would be virtually no low power stations added.

I am enclosing a summary of the study and respectfully ask you to write Chairman Kennard and explain to him your opposition to his proposal which will create such interference with existing stations that listeners will be frustrated, and the stations will lose audience and advertisers which will put them in a serious economic status.

Your help in this matter is very, very much appreciated.

Sincerely,


Peter Easter, CAE
Executive Director

PE/rs