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AMERICAN COLLEGE OF NURSE PRACTITIONERS

November 6, 2000

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary, Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

NOV 17 2000
FCC MAIL ROOM

RE: Ultra-Wideband – ET Docket 98-153

Dear Ms. Salas:

I am writing on behalf of the American College of Nurse Practitioners (ACNP) to support the FCC Notice of Proposed Rulemaking concerning Ultra-Wideband (UWB) radio transmission. ACNP through its individual, state affiliates and national affiliates represents approximately 40,000 nurse practitioners providing primary and preventative health care throughout the country, including many remote and/or underserved areas.

This new technology offers new options for patients and for their caregivers. The focus of nurses in home health care is to educate patients, families, and caregivers how to be independent for as long as possible. Most people do prefer to stay in their own home as long as possible. The ultra wideband radio system would be an outstanding resource to help promote independence and keep people out of ultra-expensive institutional care.

As we move forward into wireless applications, UWB offers limitless possibilities for among other things: patient monitoring, public health screening; remote consults between a variety of health care professionals; patient follow-ups; scheduling; and clinician access to databases and literature.

On ACNP, as well as all patients who would benefit from UWB radio transmission, we urge the FCC to move quickly and positively on the decision to permit research and development of the technology. We believe it will result in continued independence, lives saved and reduction in health care costs.

Sincerely yours,

Eric G. Scharf, CAE
Executive Director

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