

NAMI



OHIO

**Ohio's Voice
on Mental Illness**

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NAMI Father "I am confident that my family can make better choices regarding our son. I am now more invested in becoming an advocate."

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

November 13, 2000

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
455 12th St., SW
Washington DC 20554

Re: FCC Notice of Proposed Rule Making hearing on Ultra-Wideband ET
Docket 98-153

Dear Secretary Salas,

I am writing to support the initiative regarding the FCC's Notice of Proposed Rule Making on ultra-wideband radio.

NAMI Ohio provides advocacy, education and support to individuals with serious brain disorders (mental illness) and their families. Through our 47 affiliates throughout Ohio, NAMI Ohio reaches thousands of individuals each year. Many, many more are provided educational materials and referral information via our toll-free helpline. At the state level, NAMI Ohio is a leader in advocacy efforts that promote increased funding and better services for persons in need of mental health services through the public system. Our advocacy also includes efforts to recognize and treat serious mental illness as the disease it is, and to reduce the stigma surrounding the illness.

NAMI Ohio encourages the passage of this initiative in order to increase the chances an individual with a medical emergency can access the lifesaving services that would be otherwise unavailable.

NAMI Ohio recommends that the FCC act positively in its decision on approval of the ultra-wideband radio technology. We urge you to also initiate the necessary regulations to assure public safety in this regard.

Sincerely,

Terry L. Russell
Executive Director

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