

ORIGINAL

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

DUNCAN HUNTER  
52D DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA  
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES  
CHAIRMAN  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
MILITARY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
MILITARY READINESS



U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-0552

2265 RAYBURN BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0552  
(202) 225-5672  
FAX: (202) 225-0235

386 SOUTH PIERCE STREET  
EL CAJON, CA 92020  
(619) 579-3001

1101 AIRPORT ROAD, SUITE G  
IMPERIAL, CA 92251  
(760) 353-5420

June 26, 2001

The Honorable Michael K. Powell  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> St. SW  
Washington D.C. 20554

RECEIVED

JUL 16 2001

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

*OK  
ITFS  
PV  
MKP  
2146*

*00-258*

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing to you today to express my support for the Instructional Television Fixed Services (ITFS) spectrum, which is of great importance to San Diego County Schools. Specifically, I am requesting that the FCC protect the ITFS and reject attempts to reallocate portions of the digital spectrum to accommodate wireless cellular phone providers.

As you know, ITFS is a distance learning technology that has provided teacher training and classroom instruction to millions of students across the United States for more than 35 years. In San Diego County alone, instructional channels have provided nearly 600 schools and one million homes with instructional programming for more than 20 years.

I was concerned to learn that the future of ITFS is at risk. On March 30, 2001, the FCC issued a report on ITFS, which supports many of the arguments made by educational institutions against reallocation. Specifically, it was noted that spectrum reallocation in the ITFS band would disrupt distance learning services, be extremely difficult if not impossible from a technical perspective, and carry heavy financial costs for the educational institutions involved. Finally, the report suggested that relocation by slowing ITFS deployment of broadband services, would hamper existing efforts to extend digital opportunities.

Given the demonstrated benefits of ITFS and the FCC's findings, I urge you to protect this service for schools and students and refuse to reallocate any part of the ITFS spectrum. I hope, on behalf of those in my district, that you will join me in our ongoing educational mission by maintaining the integrity of available education opportunities.

Thank you for your attention to this very important matter. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Duncan Hunter  
Member of Congress

10. 11 TO 3 2

No. of Copies rec'd 0  
List ABCDE