



Michigan Senate

**Michael D. Bishop**

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January 20, 2004

Ms. Marlene Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: Public Safety Interference in the 800 MHz Band (Docket # WT 02-55)**

Secretary Dortch,

As you well know, 800 MHz interference is a growing problem. It is of particular concern to me give the fact that first responders in Michigan, Oakland County, Rochester Hills are struggling to reliably communicate with each other due to garbled connections or lost calls.

First responders have dedicated their lives to protecting the lives of others. It seems only appropriate that we do everything possible to eliminate this dangerous problem. I understand that for the last two years the Commission has dedicated itself to finding a resolution. While I applaud your commitment to this matter, I ask that you take immediate action.

The public safety community has resolutely voiced their support of the Consensus Plan. This Plan will permanently solve the problem of interference and provide mission critical spectrum for public safety's growing communications needs. Equally important for first responders and the public, this effort is completely privately funded.

When the safety and effectiveness of first responders is in jeopardy, we need to act without delay. The Consensus Plan offers a comprehensive and proactive solution to this troubling problem. I urge the Commission to act expeditiously and implement the Consensus Plan.

I appreciate your thoughtful consideration of the is matter.

Sincerely,  


Michael D. Bishop  
State Senator  
Senate, 12 District