



JUN 23 2003

The Honorable John McCain
Chairman, Committee on Commerce,
Science, and Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In anticipation of the mark-up by the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of H.R. 1320, the "Commercial Spectrum Enhancement Act," I take this opportunity to reiterate the Administration's strong support for enactment of legislation to create a spectrum relocation fund. I also commend you for your leadership in introducing a companion measure and for bringing this issue before the Committee for expeditious consideration.

The Administration believes that the spectrum relocation fund will be an important spectrum management tool to streamline the process for reimbursing government users, to facilitate their relocation to comparable spectrum, and to provide greater certainty to auction bidders and incumbents. Swift Congressional enactment of H.R. 1320 will ensure that the American public can more fully and rapidly reap the benefits promised by the next generation of wireless services.

The Administration is pleased that the legislation closely tracks the Administration's spectrum relocation fund proposal. The Administration, however, would strongly oppose any amendment to the bill. Any amendment could delay enactment of the spectrum relocation fund and jeopardize this important opportunity to expedite the opening of spectrum to new commercial uses and consumer services.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these views to you. We look forward to continuing our work together as the bill progresses through Congress.

The Office of Management and Budget has advised that there is no objection to transmittal of this letter from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Theodore W. Kassinger".

Theodore W. Kassinger

cc: The Honorable Ernest F. Hollings
Ranking Minority Member