



April 8, 2003

The Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman
Subcommittee on Telecommunications
and the Internet
Committee on Energy and Commerce
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

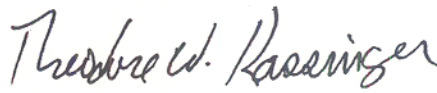
In anticipation of the mark-up by the Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet of H.R. 1320, the "Commercial Spectrum Enhancement Act," I want to reiterate the Administration's support for enactment of legislation to create a spectrum relocation fund. Such a fund is an important spectrum management tool that will streamline and shorten the process for reimbursing incumbent government users, which in turn, will facilitate their relocation to comparable spectrum and thus expedite the opening of the original spectrum to new services and technologies.

I particularly commend you and your staff for your willingness to work with the Administration in crafting a bill that meets our objectives. The Chairman's amendment in the nature of a substitute will not only provide for full reimbursement of all relocation costs incurred by incumbents in relocating to new spectrum or utilizing an alternative technology, but also will provide a streamlined mechanism for making the funds available to relocating Federal agencies and greater certainty to auction bidders and incumbents. Moreover, this bill addresses most of the concerns the Administration had with the bill as introduced.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these views to you. I look forward to continuing our work together as the bill progresses through the Committee and the 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,


Theodore W. Kassinger

cc: The Honorable Edward J. Markey, Ranking Minority Member