

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 24, 2000

Dear Colleague:

We write you to express our opposition to S. 2068 or any other efforts to limit the Federal Communication Commission's decision to open up the airwaves to community groups, local governments, educational institutions and churches through their Low Power FM initiative.

In January, after a full public process, the FCC voted to create a new class of non-commercial 100- and 10-watt FM radio stations. Because these stations will be relatively inexpensive to get on the air, and because almost all Americans have access to radio, these stations will provide an important new opportunity for community building and outreach. Supporters of this initiative include hundreds of local organizations and national groups like the US Catholic Conference, United Church of Christ Office of Communications, National League of Cities, American Library Association, Consumers Union, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, AFL-CIO, Communications Workers of America, and musicians like Bonnie Raitt, Ellis Marsalis, Robert Cray and the Indigo Girls.

We are aware that there are technical concerns that Low Power FM may cause interference to full power radio stations, but we believe the FCC addressed and answered these

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