

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 14, 2011

Help Protect the Global Positioning System (GPS) for Public Safety and National Economic Recovery

Dear Colleague:

Please join us in asking the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to take all necessary steps to protect the Global Positioning System (GPS).

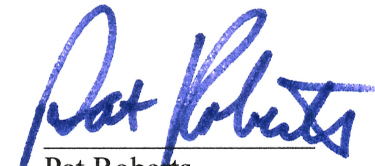
In January, the International Bureau, a sub-organization within the FCC, granted a conditional waiver to allow a single company, called LightSquared, to build tens of thousands of ground stations that may cause widespread interference to neighboring GPS signals.

GPS is a national utility that millions of Americans rely upon in their cars, cell phones, and other devices. It is essential to our economic recovery. Farmers need it for greater efficiency and environmental protection. Builders and civil engineers need it, and use it to monitor critical infrastructure like dams and bridges. GPS is also essential for efficient delivery and operations of manufacturers and distributors.

GPS is vital to public safety and national defense. Thousands of aircraft use GPS receivers for navigation, and it is central to the Federal Aviation Administration's Next Generation Air Transportation System. GPS is used for E-911 and helps first responders locate people in emergencies. It is also necessary for a range of national defense systems and homeland security. From the environment and agriculture to the economy, jobs, and defense of our country, reliable GPS affects virtually every American.

Please join us in calling on the FCC to ensure GPS is not compromised in any way. To do so, the full Commission must be involved and require LightSquared to objectively demonstrate non-interference as a condition prior to any operation of its proposed service. Anything less is an unacceptable risk to public safety. For more information, or to cosign the letter, please contact Sean Farrell (Pat Roberts) at sean_farrell@roberts.senate.gov / x4-4774, or Jason Prokop (Ben Nelson) at jason_prokop@bennelson.senate.gov / x4-6551.

Sincerely,



Pat Roberts
United States Senator



E. Benjamin Nelson
United States Senator