

Brian Raymond
Director
Technology Policy

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The Honorable Fred Upton, Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce
United States House of Representatives
2183 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Henry A. Waxman, Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce
United States House of Representatives
2204 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Upton and Ranking Member Waxman:

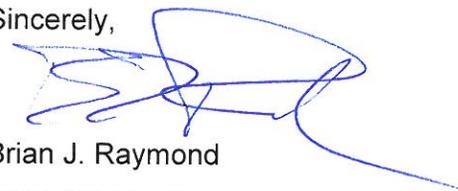
On behalf of the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the largest industrial trade association in the United States representing more than 11,000 small, medium and large manufacturers in all 50 states, thank you for your efforts to address spectrum issues that impact many of our member companies. The *Jumpstarting Opportunity with Broadband Spectrum (JOBS) Act of 2011* will enhance our nation's telecommunications infrastructure and help manufacturers grow their businesses and create jobs.

Manufacturers have become increasingly dependent on the wireless Internet and advanced telecommunication devices in their daily operations to connect with customers, employees, suppliers, and valued partners. Specifically, manufacturers use smartphones, tablets, GPS receivers and similar wireless devices and technologies to track production and inventory, to provide online learning tools to employees, and to assist all aspects of customer service operations from ordering to final delivery of a product. For these devices and the systems on which they run, wireless networks need to be robust and reliable to benefit manufacturers and consumers alike.

The *Jumpstarting Opportunity with Broadband Spectrum (JOBS) Act* will help increase the availability of wireless spectrum. It creates an open auction process for underutilized spectrum. This process should allow any qualified entity to bid on any available portion of spectrum at the auction. This will allow the marketplace to ensure it is put to the best use. The JOBS Act will also accelerate the transition from third-generation to fourth-generation networks by creating efficiencies in the process to place advanced equipment on wireless towers. These and other measures will work toward reducing the current broadband capacity constraints which have the potential to slow investment, innovation, and job creation in the manufacturing sector.

The availability of wireless spectrum directly correlates with the tools manufacturers use to run their businesses and the products they create. As manufacturers leading the economic recovery by creating jobs and growing businesses, we support the *Jumpstarting Opportunity with Broadband Spectrum (JOBS) Act*.

Sincerely,



Brian J. Raymond

Leading Innovation. Creating Opportunity. Pursuing Progress.