



Resolution Advocating for the 4.9 GHz Band to Stay in Local Use

WHEREAS, the Southwest Border Sheriffs' Coalition (SWBSC) and Texas Border Sheriff's Coalition (TBSC) has focused on the 4.9 GHz band currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC);

WHEREAS, the FCC's 4.9 GHz Order, enacted last year, established a framework permitting non-public-safety, non-interfering leased access to the 4.9 GHz band while preserving local control by public safety licensees;

WHEREAS, SWBSC and TBSC emphasize two fundamental principles regarding the 4.9 GHz band: the preservation of its locally controlled, public safety nature, and the limitation of eligibility for non-public-safety use to critical infrastructure industry (CII) systems operating on a non-interfering basis;

WHEREAS, SWBSC and TBSC firmly support Model 2, which upholds genuine local control of the critical public-safety band while accommodating compatible CII systems, as it ensures that all public-safety licensees retain the authority to approve spectrum leases impacting their licenses or operations, with the Band Manager responsible for implementing FCC coordination and leasing rules to safeguard local control of public-safety operations in the band;

WHEREAS, Model 1, if adopted, would strip public-safety licensees of their authority to determine communications systems within their jurisdictions, disregarding the diverse needs of public-safety agencies across different jurisdictions;

WHEREAS, SWBSC and TBSC reject the proposal for a nationwide license to FirstNet and oppose the direction to appoint a nationwide Band Manager, as such actions would impede local public-safety choice and control in the band, potentially forcing existing local public-safety operations off the band and granting exclusive access to AT&T's commercial and FirstNet customers, thus eliminating the opportunity for mission-specific CII systems in the 4.9 GHz band;

WHEREAS, it is imperative for the FCC to omit consideration of providing this capacity to FirstNet, as it is not legally authorized nor established to serve this capacity, and doing so could jeopardize its status and mission;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Southwest Border Sheriffs' Coalition and Texas Border Sheriff's Coalition advocate for the retention of local control over the 4.9 GHz band, endorsing Model 2 to maintain genuine local control of the public-safety band while accommodating compatible CII systems;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Southwest Border Sheriffs' Coalition and Texas Border Sheriff's Coalition urge the FCC to reject any proposal for a nationwide license to FirstNet and opposes the appointment of a nationwide Band Manager, emphasizing the importance of local public-safety choice and control in the band;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Southwest Border Sheriffs' Coalition and Texas Border Sheriff's Coalition commit to engaging with the FCC and other stakeholders to advocate for the preservation of local control of the 4.9 GHz band and to ensure that any future regulations align with the principles outlined by CERCI.