

May 21, 2021  
22 East James Street  
Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17602  
(717) 392-6334 (cellphone)

**Honorable Jim Marshall**

105 Ryan Office Building  
Post Office Box 202014  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Chairman Marshall and Members of the House Consumer Affairs Committee:

My name is Dan Medbury and I reside in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. I am a retired electrical engineer with a background in radiological controls and health physics. I have operated three nuclear reactors and possess a commercial FCC license.

I attest and affirm that the following statements are true, accurate and within my knowledge.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) states in its website *that “the public’s safety is Job 1.”*<sup>1</sup> However, the truth of the matter is that the FCC is working for the giant telecommunication companies and clearly places the profits of the telecommunication industry above the health and safety of the American public. The stranglehold industry maintains over the FCC, Congressional oversight committees, and state and local government officials at all levels is thoroughly documented in a book entitled *“Captured Agency: How the Federal Communications Commission is Dominated by the Industries It Presumably Regulates.”*<sup>2</sup>

Here are four examples from the book:

1. **Revolving employment door.** There is a free flow of executive leadership between the FCC and industry CEOs.<sup>3</sup> The result is that corporate insiders write statutes to enrich their corporations and benefit themselves.
2. **Lobbying.** The Communications/Electronics sector spent nearly \$800 million in 2013-2014 lobbying government officials.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.fcc.gov/public-safety-and-homeland-security>

<sup>2</sup> [https://ethics.harvard.edu/files/center-for-ethics/files/capturedagency\\_alster.pdf](https://ethics.harvard.edu/files/center-for-ethics/files/capturedagency_alster.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> For example, Tom Wheeler was the former head of the cellular industry’s main lobbying group (Cellular Telecommunications Industry Association – CTIA) before being appointed as Chairman of the FCC. See Chapter 1 of *Captured Agency* for further examples.

3. **Campaign contributions.** Approximately \$2.8 million from industry to key Senate Committee Members in a recent six-year period.
4. **Suppression and corruption of science.** Stopping research and cutting off funding to industry scientists when their studies report adverse health effects from microwave radiation at levels below FCC guidelines.

Supervisors and their constituents should be able to trust and have confidence in FCC guidelines. However, we cannot. The telecommunication industry and FCC have become prime examples of corporate/institutional corruption.

Consider this statement by Representatives Pallone and Doyle with oversight responsibilities to FCC Chairman Ajit Pai:<sup>4</sup>

***“Under your leadership, the FCC has failed repeatedly to act in the public interest and placed the interest of corporations over consumers.”***

And this statement by Senator Elizabeth Warren:<sup>5</sup>

***“The FCC should be working on behalf of American consumers, not giant telecom companies. This is the definition of corruption: industry members writing the rules to benefit themselves & their rich friends.”***

The overwhelming and incontrovertible evidence of harm cannot lawfully be ignored.

By your oath of office, and the Pennsylvania State Constitution, you are sworn to protect the health and safety of 12-million Pennsylvanians. A vote which allows Fortune 500 companies to profit by making Pennsylvania residents sick must not be enacted. I urge you to require 5G antennas be kept out of areas near homes, schools, playgrounds, health care facilities and areas that rely on pollinators, and to otherwise regulate them as strongly as federal laws allow.

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<sup>4</sup> Letter from Representative Pallone, Jr., Chairman of the House committee on Energy and Commerce et. al dated February 4, 2019 <https://www.dailydot.com/debug/fcc-house-democrats-oversight-letter/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.cnet.com/news/elizabeth-warren-accuses-advisory-panel-for-fcc-of-corruption/>

I request that you please write back to me and advise what action the Committee will take to protect my health and that of all Pennsylvanians. Please enter my opposition letter into the official record for the May 25, 2021 public hearing and subsequent proceedings.

I have expressed no matter of “mere concern,” but solely matters of substance, fact and law. I accept and appreciate your oath of office.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Dan Medbury