

mission considers to be acceptable values. The proposed legislation would reduce the present enforcement problems faced by the Federal Communications Commission and assure the public of a better quality of reception than is now possible. The legislation would further insure that such radiating equipment is developed to operate in what the Federal Communications Commission considers to be appropriate portions of the radio frequency spectrum.

The Department of Defense would benefit from the legislation inasmuch as there have been many instances of harmful interference to essential air traffic control services caused by commercially developed equipment and devices which radiate energy in unauthorized portions of the radio frequency spectrum. The Department of Defense would also benefit from the exclusion clause contained in Section 302(c) of the legislation. The clause protects the interests of the U.S. Government and in particular all the military departments which have active programs for the research, development and use of electronic countermeasure equipment. Such equipment is specifically designed to interfere with the use of the radio frequency spectrum. In the case of contracts with manufacturers for equipment not intended for deliberate interference, the military departments incorporate military standards which are considered to be adequately stringent to prevent interference.

In view of the above, the Department of Defense supports enactment of H.R. 9665.

This report has been coordinated within the Department of Defense in accordance with procedures prescribed by the Secretary of Defense.

The Bureau of the Budget advises that, from the standpoint of the Administration's program, there is no objection to the presentation of this report for the consideration of the Committee.

Sincerely,

ROBERT H. CHARLES,
Assistant Secretary.

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION,
Washington, D.C., May 17, 1967.

HON. HARLEY O. STAGGERS,
Chairman, Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce,
House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Administrator Webb has asked me to reply to your letter of May 5, 1967, in which you request comments from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration on H.R. 9665, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, to give the Federal Communications Commission authority to prescribe regulations for the manufacture, import, sale, shipment, or use of devices which cause harmful interference to radio reception.

The legislation would authorize the Federal Communications Commission to promulgate regulations with respect to the manufacture, import, sale and shipment of devices capable of interfering with radio communications and would prohibit the manufacture, sale or shipment of devices which did not comply with regulations so promulgated. The statute would not be applicable to carriers simply for transporting the devices without trading in them to the manufacture, assembly or installation of devices for its own use by a public utility providing electric service, or to the devices for the use of the Government of the United States or to devices manufactured solely for export purposes.

In its essence, the legislation is designed to permit the control, at the source, of devices such as electronic toys, electric garage door mechanisms, etc., which through faulty design interfere with communications activities. Attempts to control such devices at the user level have been extremely difficult.

There have been numerous discussions in the Interdepartment Radio Advisory Committee meetings as to a means which might be used to control interfering emissions. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration appreciates the need for such regulations. As an agency which requires high level of reliability in its communications devices, it would benefit substantially from enactment and enforcement of the proposed legislation.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration recommends its enactment by the Congress.

This report has been submitted to the Bureau of the Budget which has advised that, from the standpoint of the Administration's program, there is no objection to its submission to the Congress.

Sincerely yours,

RICHARD L. CALLAGHAN,
Assistant Administrator for Legislative Affairs.