

[First Reprint]
SENATE RESOLUTION No. 73

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 19, 1996

By Senators MATHEUSSEN and ZANE

1 **A SENATE RESOLUTION** urging the Federal Communications Commission to
2 refrain from assigning Channel 21 to commercial broadcasters in the
3 Southern New Jersey, Philadelphia Region.
4
5 **WHEREAS**, There is a proposal currently pending before the Federal
6 Communications Commission (hereinafter the "FCC") to assign the
7 Channel 21 bandwidth to a commercial television broadcast station for use
8 in the Southern New Jersey, Philadelphia Region; and
9 **WHEREAS**, The assignment of the Channel 21 bandwidth to commercial
10 broadcasters creates a substantial risk of interference with Channel 20 land
11 mobile services that operate within a fifty-mile radius of such proposed
12 commercial broadcast station; and
13 **WHEREAS**, There are currently over 600 land mobile licensees in the region,
14 including numerous Gloucester County agencies responsible for
15 communications, emergency management, fire, sheriff and special
16 transportation services that utilize the Channel 20 bandwidth in
17 conformance with FCC regulations; and
18 **WHEREAS**, In addition to the many county land mobile services, numerous
19 municipal public safety agencies in the region, including 53 fire companies,
20 27 ambulance squads and 23 municipal police departments also rely on
21 Channel 20 for their operations; and
22 **WHEREAS**, It has also been proposed that other frequencies including 54 to
23 72, 76 to 88 and 698 to 806 MHz be assigned to land mobile services in
24 order to provide alternative channels that would not be subject to
25 interference from a Channel 21 commercial broadcasting station in the
26 region; and
27 **WHEREAS**, Most of the equipment currently used by county and municipal
28 land mobile services cannot be converted for use on these alternative
29 channels, thereby potentially necessitating the expenditure of considerable

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.
Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:
¹ Senate STR committee amendments adopted January 23, 1997.

1 sums of money for replacement equipment in order for the county and
 2 municipal land mobile services to operate on the alternative channels; now,
 3 therefore,

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5 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate of the State of New Jersey:*

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7 1. This House strongly urges the ¹[FCC] Federal Communications
 8 Commission (hereinafter the "FCC")¹ to refrain from assigning Channel 21 to
 9 a commercial television broadcast station in the Southern New Jersey,
 10 Philadelphia Region because of the devastating impact that such a station
 11 would have on the operations of county and municipal land mobile services
 12 assigned to Channel 20 and on the entire public safety community in the
 13 region.

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15 2. This House calls upon the FCC to reject any proposal to designate
 16 alternative frequencies such as 54 to 72, 76 to 88 and 698 to 806 MHz for
 17 land mobile communication in place of Channel 20 due to the potential high
 18 cost of purchasing replacement equipment that would be needed by the land
 19 mobile services to operate on the alternative frequencies.

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21 3. A duly authenticated copy of this resolution, signed by the President of
 22 the Senate and attested by the Secretary of the Senate, shall be transmitted to
 23 the Chairman and the Commissioners of the FCC, to United States Senator
 24 Frank Lautenberg and United States ¹[Senator-elect] Senator¹ Robert
 25 Torricelli, and every member of the House of Representatives elected from this
 26 State.

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31 Urges FCC to refrain from assigning Channel 21 to commercial broadcasters
 32 in Southern New Jersey, Philadelphia Region.