

May 8, 2023



The Honorable Alan Davidson
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
1401 Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20230

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Ramiro A. Cavazos
President & CEO

Dear Assistant Secretary Davidson,

On behalf of the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (USHCC) and our Board of Directors, we are pleased to submit a letter to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) regarding a balanced spectrum policy that includes additional bands allocated for licensed and unlicensed spectrum. We commend your efforts on this national spectrum strategy to drive and strengthen connectivity around the country.

The United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (USHCC) is the nation's largest Latino Business Advocacy organization and works to actively promote the economic growth, development, and interests of more than five million Hispanic-owned businesses. The USHCC exists to support these businesses that contribute over \$800 billion to the American economy each year. We operate through a network of more than 260 local chambers and business associations throughout the nation and have partnerships with more than 200 major global corporations.

The USHCC represents Hispanic-owned businesses in every sector of the economy, and we understand the importance of technology and telecommunications resources and how they are a critical component to their success to create growth and opportunity for the U.S. economy.

American businesses are growing increasingly dependent on technological infrastructure. The digital transformation of Hispanic Business Enterprises (HBEs) is necessary to ensure their success, but there remains a discrepancy in both quality and accessibility of tech infrastructure between urban and rural areas and within historically unserved communities. As one of the youngest user groups in the country, Latinos have benefited from the transformative power of the internet leading to some of the highest rates of digital entrepreneurship, and the consumption of digital media at rates that far outpace other demographic groups. An equitable and balanced spectrum policy could significantly impact this digital divide and provide much needed support to both communities in need and those working to sustain our thriving economy.

As NTIA works towards the goal of a National Spectrum Strategy, the USHCC looks forward to the development of spectrum policy that utilizes both licensed and unlicensed spectrum. Licensed spectrum, as proven with 5G, will play a key role in the next generation 6G and beyond. More licensed spectrum will allow mobile broadband to meet the increased wireless demand.

Unlicensed spectrum will remain equally critical, as availability and access are fundamental for educational purposes, assisting HBEs, and driving innovations. Only this balanced policy will help all communities thrive in the digital age.

Thank you for your service and partnership in supporting our Hispanic and minority-owned businesses across the country. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Anthony J. Hinojosa, Vice President of Government and International Affairs via phone at 703.725.8461 or email at ahinojosa@ushcc.com.

We look forward to a positive outcome on this important matter as we strive to create equity for the Latino community as part of an equitable National Spectrum Policy.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ramiro Cavazos". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Ramiro A. Cavazos
President and CEO
United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce