

**As Introduced**

**129th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2011-2012**

**H. C. R. No. 27**

**Representative Peterson**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Derickson, Buchy, Hayes, Adams, R.,  
Grossman, Gonzales, Hill, Adams, J., Damschroder**

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**CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

To urge the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) 1  
to reconsider the FCC order granting the broadband 2  
network provider, LightSquared, conditional 3  
authority to construct cellular base stations that 4  
may interfere with the frequency used by global 5  
positioning systems upon which precision 6  
agriculture and other activities rely. 7

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE  
OF OHIO (THE SENATE CONCURRING):**

WHEREAS, The use of high-speed broadband technology and 8  
global positioning systems (GPS) have changed the way Ohioans live 9  
and do business throughout the state by offering a wealth of 10  
opportunities for all Ohioans; and 11

WHEREAS, Having become an integral part of everyday life, GPS 12  
devices are used for many purposes including responding to 13  
emergencies, surveying construction and other sites, tracking 14  
freight and fleet vehicles, finding business or restaurant 15  
locations, navigating bodies of water, and even finding lost pets 16  
and, as a result, GPS devices allow Ohioans to respond to 17  
emergencies more efficiently, improve business practices, and 18  
pursue leisure activities such as sailing, hiking, geocaching, and 19

planning road trips; and 20

WHEREAS, For the many farms in the state and the nation that 21  
rely on GPS devices and software, GPS service has become an 22  
indispensible tool to collect accurate geographical data to map 23  
field boundaries, roads, and irrigation systems, to collect data 24  
to increase crop yields, and to accurately pinpoint specific field 25  
locations year after year; and 26

WHEREAS, Precision agriculture using GPS services allows 27  
farmers to increase their productivity through precision planting 28  
and targeted application of fertilizers and chemicals to improve 29  
crops and combat weeds and crop diseases; and 30

WHEREAS, GPS technology makes it possible for farmers to work 31  
in fields under low-visibility conditions due to rain, dust, fog, 32  
or darkness; and 33

WHEREAS, The accuracy of GPS services affords farmers the 34  
ability to limit input costs, to operate more efficiently and 35  
economically, and to be more environmentally friendly; and 36

WHEREAS, The economic stability of rural Ohio and the farming 37  
community would be adversely impacted if GPS services were 38  
disrupted by interference from high-speed broadband services 39  
operated over frequencies on the L-band spectrum currently used by 40  
low-powered satellite-based GPS; and 41

WHEREAS, The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has 42  
granted conditional approval for the broadband network provider, 43  
LightSquared, to construct high-powered cellular base stations as 44  
part of its effort to create a nationwide wireless network 45  
integrated with satellite coverage; and 46

WHEREAS, Such base stations may create untenable disruptions 47  
to GPS receivers resulting in a direct economic impact that is 48  
estimated to be \$19.9 billion annually within the nation's 49  
agriculture industry; and 50

WHEREAS, Such disruptions also will interfere with the 51  
GPS-dependent activities of Ohioans as they go about their 52  
business and recreational activities; now therefore be it 53

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 129th General Assembly 54  
of the state of Ohio, in adopting this resolution, urge the FCC to 55  
reconsider its order granting LightSquared conditional authority 56  
to proceed with cellular base station construction; and be it 57  
further 58

RESOLVED, That the FCC address the concerns about GPS 59  
interference held by incumbent broadband spectrum users regarding 60  
LightSquared's cellular base station proposal; and be it further 61

RESOLVED, That LightSquared's request to operate a nationwide 62  
network of cellular base stations be considered as a reallocation 63  
of spectrum subject to public comment and participation under 64  
different rules than used previously; and be it further 65

RESOLVED, That the FCC establish and direct a more effective 66  
process to scientifically evaluate the impact of cellular base 67  
stations proposed by LightSquared and any interference the 68  
stations may cause with GPS services and, during the process, as 69  
this new technology is considered for the L-band, that the FCC 70  
draw upon its engineering prowess, institutional knowledge, and 71  
laboratory facilities to ensure that the process is open and 72  
impartial with sufficient time allotted for public input from 73  
existing users and technical experts; and be it further 74

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives 75  
transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the 76  
Chairperson of the FCC, the President of the United States, the 77  
Secretary of the United States Senate, the Clerk of the United 78  
States House of Representatives, the members of the Ohio 79  
Congressional delegation, and the news media of Ohio. 80