

**STATEMENT OF  
COMMISSIONER JONATHAN S. ADELSTEIN**

*In the Matter of Creation of a Low Power Radio Service, MM Docket No. 99-25, Second Order on Reconsideration & Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FCC 05-75)*

I'm pleased to support today's item, designed to move the ball forward in the further development of low power FM radio. LPFM provides local communities with new voices, which is so important, especially in today's era of excessive radio consolidation. The public should have greater diversity on the radio dial. The Commission's action today will provide immediate relief to dozens of stations that need additional time to complete construction or effect ownership changes. I look forward to addressing the issues raised in the item that are critical to the expansion of this emerging radio service, which is possible to accomplish without causing interference to existing broadcasters.

One of the most significant obstacles to further development of LPFM isn't addressed by today's item, however, because the Commission is currently prohibited by statute from fixing it. LPFM stations are currently required to protect full-power FM stations operating on third-adjacent channels. The Commission initially concluded that such protection isn't necessary. The Mitre Corporation, in its independent and Congressionally-mandated study, reached the same conclusion, and the Commission has therefore recommended that Congress lift the statutory restriction. I therefore hope that Congress will act soon on Senator McCain's bill to remove this unnecessary requirement, allowing LPFM to develop more and provide new voices to an even greater segment of the population, without causing harmful interference to existing broadcasters.