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December 17, 2024

The Hon. Hakeem Jeffries 2267 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Copies to: Sen. C. Schumer, Sen. M. McConnell, Rep. M. Johnson

## Dear Leader Jeffries,

We are writing you today as the Board of Directors of the National Association of Farm Broadcasting (NAFB) on behalf of agricultural and rural broadcast stations and networks across America, to express our support for the inclusion of H.R. 3413/S.1669, the AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act, in the Omnibus Continuing Resolution measure that will come before the end of this Lame Duck session.

For over 80 years, our association's broadcasters and affiliated media companies have worked to serve rural and urban residents with timely and accurate information in our daily programming. We speak over radio frequencies that are licensed through the Federal Communications Commission. Each of these companies is required to maintain a public file recording service to our communities of service. Each license requires an individual station to purchase, maintain and respond with EAS receivers in each facility.

Failure to approve this critical AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act will allow automakers to eliminate access to critical information to the people we serve. Rural and urban residents should not be forced to subscribe to an unreliable data stream for urgent information.

Access to radio becomes even more important for America's producers and rural audiences in times of emergency. For those who work mostly out in the open, often miles from home, response time is critical especially in severe weather events.

At our most recent convention our members received training from USDA and livestock organizations on our response to serve listeners in the event of a foreign animal disease invading our borders.

AM radio stations are unparalleled in their range. A single AM station can reach up to 700 miles and travel through barriers like mountains and buildings. When the power goes out, and cell towers go offline, radio is still available. While millions of rural Americans still lack broadband

service, rural and agricultural programming through AM radio helps keep rural residents apprised of news that may impact their businesses, health care, education, and family.

We appreciate your leadership on this matter and support maintaining access to AM radio and the services it provides to rural America. To achieve this, we encourage you to include support H.R. 3413/S.1669, the AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act.

Sincerely,

Jeff Nalley NAFB President Cromwell Ag Radio Network Utica, KY

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