

WASHINGTON- Congressman Lee Terry scored a major legislative victory today when the House Energy and Commerce Committee approved the 'Local Community Radio Act', H.R. 1147. Congressman Terry's bill will allow thousands of community radio stations across the country to begin broadcasting.

"This is a huge victory for community groups who want to set up low power radio stations across the United States," said Congressman Terry. "This legislation will help empower individuals and organizations who are devoted to fulfilling the interests and needs within their community." □

□

"This is a dream come true," said Suntaman Communications CEO Wes Hall. "You cannot build a community without a cohesive voice and this will give a voice to the voiceless. □ Low Power FM is the beacon that lights up the future for us and bravo to Congressman Lee Terry for championing this effort on our behalf."

□

In 2000, Congress limited the FCC to issuing LPFM licenses only in rural areas due to questions of interference with big full power stations. Those questions were answered in a 2003 report, now the FCC recommends that Congress act to let them license new LPFM stations across the country.

What is Low Power FM?

- c Low Power FM (LPFM) stations are community-based, noncommercial radio stations that broadcast to neighborhoods and small towns.
- c As a uniquely local outlet, LPFM stations directly serve their communities.
- c LPFM licenses make a radio station possible for churches, schools, civil and other community groups that best understand the needs of their local communities.
- c They give local politicians, clergy, and civil rights and community leaders a forum to discuss local issues and provide essential emergency services for local communities during times of crisis.

