

**Questions for the Record**  
**“Listen Here: Why Americans Value AM Radio”**

**United States House of Representatives**  
**Committee on Energy and Commerce**

*Subcommittee on Communications and Technology*

**June 6, 2023**

Written Questions Submitted by the Honorable Russ Fulcher to Jerry “J” Chapman

- 1. Would you say, at least in your area, that the coverage of AM stations is solid to strong, offering a good support mechanism for getting emergency and related broadcasts out to rural areas?**

**Response:**

Yes. AM radio is one of the most resilient and far-reaching means of communication. AM radio stations have a wide reach, covering a much larger geographic area than a cell phone tower, and can be accessed by anyone with a simple radio device. This ensures that vital information is accessible to everyone, including those in rural or remote areas. Because of AM radio’s unique ability to reach a wide geographic area – traveling around and over solid objects such as mountains – it offers many Americans struggling with poor, or non-existent cellular and broadband coverage a chance to stay connected. When the power goes out and cell networks are down during times of emergency, radio is often the only way for people to get information, sometimes for days at a time. Given their signal range and resilient architecture, AM radio stations play a crucial role in the nation’s emergency alert system (EAS), with more than 60 AM radio stations serving as Primary Entry Points (PEPs) to the EAS across the country.

- 2. Does your experience validate that?**

**Response:**

Yes. Woof Boom Radio serves Central Indiana and West Central Ohio with twelve radio stations, three of which are AM radio stations: WCIT (940AM, Lima, Ohio); WHBU (1240AM, Anderson, Ind.); and WMUN (1340AM Muncie, Ind.). Our locally focused content informs, educates and alerts listeners in times of emergency. Our news coverage is increasingly more important; as a result, we recently added news staff in Indiana and Ohio. This past year, we reprogrammed WMUN to specifically provide local news and information that helps Muncie understand and deal with the community’s many complex issues.