

AMENDMENT TO DRAFT OVERSIGHT PLAN

OFFERED BY REP. CLARKE

Insert new subsection under COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY ISSUES titled DIVERSITY OF MEDIA OWNERSHIP:

The Committee will execute its jurisdiction to protect diversity of viewpoints while continuing to shine a light on the lack of diverse ownership within the broadcast industry. Minority- and women-owned businesses have not been well-represented in the broadcasting industry. Of the over 1,700 commercial broadcast television stations in the U.S., less than 6 percent are owned by women, and less than 3 percent are minority owned. With respect to radio stations, women owned approximately 7 percent of FM broadcast radio stations, and minorities less than 3 percent. Women and minority ownership is five to ten times higher in other industries than in the broadcast industry. The Committee will review the Federal Communications Commission's efforts to collect data on female and minority ownership of the industry in an effort to explore new initiatives to expand ownership to these underrepresented groups.