



Testimony of

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On

“The Satellite Television Law: Repeal, Reauthorize, or Revise?”

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Subcommittee on Communications and Technology

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Good Morning, Chairman Walden, Ranking Member Eshoo, and members of the Subcommittee, I appreciate the opportunity to testify today. My name is Mike Palkovic, and I am the Executive Vice President of Services and Operations of DIRECTV.

The summer of 2013 is here. Americans are heading out on vacation, weekend getaways, and family gatherings. They will bring with them grills, refreshments, sunblock, and summer reading. They will also bring their favorite television shows and movies. Today, consumers demand the programming they want, when they want it, where they want it, on the device of their choosing, and at prices they can afford. For the most part, they get it.

The very idea that someone could take television to the beach would have been unimaginable twenty years ago. Actually, just about all of today's video marketplace would have been unrecognizable back then. From its first satellite in 1993 to TV Everywhere today, DIRECTV has played a big role in this transformation.

Unfortunately, one subset of television, over-the-air broadcast television remains governed by laws that have not kept up with these changes. These outdated laws work for the broadcasters, but not for the American viewing public. Broadcast television has gotten far too expensive. It is often unavailable where consumers want it, when they want it. Customers are forced to buy unwanted programming to get it, and the broadcast industry increasingly takes it away from viewers in "blackouts."

The growing tension between innovation and stale broadcast regulation has landed repeatedly in federal court. But this problem will not be solved in a courthouse. Only Congress can address it.

We see two paths that the 113th Congress should consider as it works to reauthorize the Satellite Television Extension and Localism Act (STELA). One is to jettison broadcast regulation altogether and create a truly free market in which broadcast programming is no longer treated differently than every other type of programming. The other is to make the laws smarter to reflect the 21st century video marketplace. Neither is easy, but the task is long overdue.

DIRECTV is ready and eager to work with this committee and the entire Congress as we renew STELA to improve the video experience for all consumers.

Congress last tackled major reform of the television marketplace in 1992. The 1992 Cable Act in turn expanded on decades of intervention by Congress, including the 1976 Copyright Act, the 1984 Cable Act, and the first Satellite Home Viewer Act in 1988.

But so much has changed since then and the pace continues to quicken. Consider the recent history of the video marketplace (for a complete timeline, please see **Attachment A**):

- 1980 28 national cable networks
- 1985 FOX Broadcasting established
- 1990 57% of homes subscribe to cable; 79 cable nets

- 1993 First DIRECTV satellite, DBS-1 launches
- 1994 DIRECTV's first customer purchases a system in Jackson, MS at Cowboy Maloney's
- 1995 1 million DIRECTV subscribers
- 1996 Residential cable broadband introduced; WRAL-HD broadcasts the 1st public HD signal
- 1998 171 cable nets; DIRECTV is first national provider to use 5.1 channel Dolby Digital surround sound; DIRECTV grows to 4 million subscribers
- 2000 65 million cable subscribers; DIRECTV TiVo service is launched, laying the foundation for the DVR revolution
- 2001 DIRECTV grows to 10 million and launches its first "spot beam" satellite to serve 40 local TV markets; average adult watches 4 hours of TV a day
- 2004 98% of homes have a TV; DIRECTV receives 1st Primetime Emmy in Interactive TV for its enhanced NFL Sunday Ticket
- 2005 Verizon launches FiOS TV; YouTube launched; Netflix has 4.2 million subscribers; DIRECTV reaches 15 million subscribers
- 2006 115 million homes have access to high speed internet; 800 cable nets; AT&T U-verse launches in San Antonio, Texas; Amazon Unbox launched
- 2007 Netflix adds streaming service and totals 7.5 million subscribers; DIRECTV launches 21 national HD channels becoming the HD content leader
- 2008 1 million FiOS subscribers; Hulu launches; Netflix partners with Xbox 360, Blu-ray, and Apple to deliver streaming content

- 2009 DIRECTV DVR Scheduler App is launched on iPhone and iTouch; June 12th Digital Transition of broadcasters; DIRECTV reaches 18 million subscribers; Netflix partners with PS3, Internet TV, and other Internet connected devices to deliver content, reaches 12.3 million subscribers
- 2010 DIRECTV launches 3D TV channels; Roku and Vimeo partner to bring video to TV; Boxee Box released
- 2011 3.4 million U-verse subscribers; Microsoft launches Xbox Apps Marketplace to 40 million users; Roku reaches 1 billion streams of content to the TV
- 2012 Aereo launches; 93% homes have cable broadband access; 4.5 million U-Verse subscribers; 5 million FiOS subscribers; 20 million DIRECTV subscribers; Boxee Cloud DVR launched; DISH launches Autohop and PrimeTime Anytime
- 2013 Roku surpasses 700 channels; Verizon/Redbox JV launched public beta; YouTube launches paid subscription service; Aereo launches in Boston and Atlanta; DISH launches the Hopper with Sling; Google Fiber announced for Kansas City and Austin; Netflix reaches 29 million US subscribers

So I think it's fair to say that those who passed the 1992 Cable Act would not recognize the video marketplace of today. If I had to distill all of these changes in the last twenty years into three key trends, I'd list the following:

First, in 1992, cable was the only game in town. If you wanted anything beyond over-the-air television, you had no place to go other than your cable operator. Today, most customers can

choose from cable, satellite, and telco, not to mention offerings like Netflix, Roku, Boxee, Xbox and Hulu.

Second, in 1992 you watched television *on* your television. Now, you can watch “TV” on computers, tablets, phones, and just about every other device imaginable.

Third, so much more content is available than before. In 1992, there were four networks and approximately seventy cable channels. Today, there are more than 900 cable channels and an endless amount of video available online.

This sounds like a success story. And it is.

But there is one exception to this good news: broadcast television. We hear more complaints about broadcast related issues than almost anything else. Our subscribers complain about high prices, lack of choice, and blackouts. If DIRECTV’s 20 million subscribers are any indication, the American viewing public is not as happy today about broadcasting as they were in 1992.

Much of this is because of the 21-year-old Cable Act and the retransmission consent regime it created.

First, **retransmission consent raises prices**. As I have said, there is much more competition now in pay-TV than there was in 1992. Competition normally drives down prices. But, as the

Congressional Research Service recently put it, "[i]ronically, the market consequence of greater competition in the distribution of video programming appears to be greater negotiating leverage for programmers with popular — and especially must-have — programming, resulting in higher programming prices that MVPDs tend to pass through at least partially to subscribers." [Congressional Research Service (July 2007)].

Staggering rate hikes are the result of this imbalance. To illustrate; between 2010 and 2015, DIRECTV's retransmission consent costs will increase **600% per subscriber**. These cash payments are on top of, not in lieu of, the enormous fees we already pay the broadcasters for cable channels that were tied to the retransmission consent negotiations.

Second, **retransmission consent limits choice**. The retransmission consent regime has led to the consolidation and bundling of cable channels by broadcast-owned media conglomerates. In 1992, the broadcasters owned 4 cable channels. Today, they own over 104 cable channels, a **2,500% ownership increase (Attachment B)**. For example, in 1992, NBC owned one channel, CNBC. Today Comcast/NBCUniversal owns 22 cable channels, plus 11 regional sports networks. These broadcasting conglomerates use the retransmission consent process to force the vast majority of our customers to take and pay for all of their channels. Such bundling not only frustrates consumers but leads to higher costs for larger bundles that consumers often don't want and sometimes can't afford.

Third, **retransmission consent leads to blackouts**. Broadcasters increasingly use blackouts and the threat of blackouts to drive price increases and deny consumers access to what was once free network programming. As shown in **(Attachment C)**, broadcasters pulled the plug in 12 markets in 2010, 51 in 2011, and 91 last year.

The authors of the 1992 Cable Act cautioned against this tactic. The late Senator Inouye stated during Senate debate on January 30, 1992 (138 Cong. Rec. S643):

MR. INOUYE. ... the FCC should monitor the workings of this section following its rulemaking implementing the regulations that will govern stations' exercise of retransmission consent so as to identify any such problems. If it identifies such unforeseen instances in which a lack of agreement results in a loss of local programming to viewers, the Commission should take the regulatory steps needed to address the problem. I assure my friend that my colleagues on the committee and I will make certain that the FCC uses its authority to prevent any such impasses from becoming permanent and frustrating the achievement of our goal to maximize local service to the public.

In sum, the 1992 Cable Act has maximized broadcasters' leverage to levels unforeseen by its authors. The results for a consumer are higher prices, lack of choice and a total of 154 "loss[es] of local programming."

Nor is the 1992 Act alone in distorting the television marketplace to the detriment of consumers. Nearly four decades of protections, preferences and carve outs have been layered on top of each other, creating a maze of laws that require teams of lawyers to understand.

These include:

- Must-carry/carry-one, carry-all (47 U.S.C. §§ 534-35, 338)
- Special copyright protections, including the ability to step into the shoes of upstream copyright holders and enhanced damages for violations (17 U.S.C. § 501(c)-(d); 17 U.S.C. § 119 (a)(6))
- Ability for a single station to negotiate retransmission consent for multiple stations in a market, either through “shared services agreements” and similar arrangements or thorough multicast carriage (The legality of SSAs and other similar arrangements remains in question. See Amendment of the Commission’s Rules Related to Retransmission Consent, 26 FCC Rcd. 2718 (2011).)
- Signal quality requirements (47 U.S.C. § 534(b)(3)(B)(4); 47 U.S.C. § 338(j))
- Channel placement and “neighborhooding” requirements (47 U.S.C. § 534(b)(3)(B)(6); 47 U.S.C. § 338(j))
- “Two dish” restrictions (47 U.S.C. § 338(g))
- Must-buy provisions for cable operators (47 U.S.C. § 543(b)(7))
- Network Nonduplication and syndicated exclusivity (47 C.F.R. § 76.92-95 (Cable Network Nonduplication Rule) 47 C.F.R. § 76.122 (Satellite Network Nonduplication Rule) 47 C.F.R. § 101-110 (Cable Syndicated Exclusivity) 47 C.F.R. § 123-125 (Satellite Syndicated Exclusivity))

- Notice requirements that apply before broadcast programming is moved (47 U.S.C. § 534(b)(9))
- A prohibition on distributors dropping broadcast programming during “sweeps weeks” (47 U.S.C. § 534(b)(9))

Every single one of these rules gives special privileges to broadcasters. These privileges do not apply to cable networks, Internet programming, or any other kind of video product other than broadcasting.

Congress must address the imbalance created by decades of regulatory underbrush clogging the video marketplace. Outdated laws harm consumers. They limit choice, deny channels, and drive unsustainable price increases.

As stated earlier, I see two paths forward as you reauthorize STELA. One path is to eliminate these laws entirely. Representative Scalise’s bill, the Next Generation Television Marketplace Act, does this. His legislation does not seek to balance the benefits and obligations of regulation. Instead, the bill seeks to start over with *no* regulation.

We applaud Mr. Scalise’s leadership and initiative. While it may not be the final destination of this committee and the 113th Congress, exploring complete and unbiased deregulation will ultimately benefit the consumer. Decades of government intervention will not be corrected overnight by an unbound market. But make no mistake about the current TV marketplace; it is

not a free market by any stretch. Contrary to repeated broadcaster assertions, the only thing “free” about this market is the significantly underutilized spectrum granted to broadcasters by the government.

The Scalise legislation is also elegant in its simplicity. By removing all government preferences, including the statutory copyright licenses DIRECTV itself relies on, it treats everyone the same and creates deregulatory parity. Cable, telco video, and satellite would operate under the same rules as our numerous Internet competitors, that is, none.

DIRECTV has thrived in today’s highly regulated market. We think we could also succeed in a completely deregulated market, if we maintain our focus on the consumer.

The other path is to make the laws we have smarter. Here, of course, there are numerous proposals. Just as our success depends on delighting subscribers that choose DIRECTV, we think any changes must be driven by what is best for the consumer. Let me talk about a few of the most promising ideas.

First, Senator McCain recently introduced S. 912, the Television Consumer Freedom Act of 2013 or so called *a la carte* legislation. This legislation demonstrates the growing frustration over the rising cost of content and the inability of consumers to choose the programming they want. Over the years, we have tried in vain to negotiate more choice and packaging flexibility for our customers. The media conglomerates either outright refuse, or make offers that can best be

described as hollow. For example, they might charge as much, or more, for one of their most popular channels as they would for the entire bundle. The result is always the same: higher prices for consumers and the same forced bundles of channels they may not want and sometimes can't afford.

We believe the marketplace is best suited to resolve this conflict. Ideally, we would like to work with the content companies to give consumers what they want: more choice over their programming. However, if the media conglomerates continue to reject calls for packaging flexibility, then they leave us no option but to support government intervention. The *status quo* is simply unacceptable.

Second, Congress could address blackouts directly. It could, of course, simply prohibit them in light of the fact that [the] broadcasters are using the public's spectrum. Or it could permit pay-TV providers to deliver replacement distant signals during local blackouts. Subscribers would pay for the distant network programming just as they do now.

The broadcasters claim their local content is enormously important to consumers. If this is true, then distant network programming would be a poor substitute, and we would have every incentive to negotiate a carriage deal for the local programming. Either way, this proposal supports Congress' long-standing policy objective of ensuring all consumers have access to network programming.

Third, Congress could allow broadcasters to negotiate directly with consumers, getting rid of the pay-TV middleman. Broadcasters would simply set their rates and publish them. We would offer the stations at the published price on an individual basis and pass the cost directly to subscribers. A consumer could, for example, choose ABC and NBC, but opt out of CBS and FOX, as they do today with HBO and Showtime. This would end blackouts, allow for consumer choice, and allow broadcasters to charge as much as they think consumers will pay for their content. In some ways, this would create the most “free” market of all, as broadcasters could set whatever prices they wanted and their viewers could accept or reject those prices. DIRECTV is not wedded to any of these particular approaches. We are open to other, new ideas. But the *status quo* no longer works for consumers.

DIRECTV has brought competition in pay-TV where there was once none. We have succeeded by relentlessly focusing on, and serving the consumer. We have tried to bring this same approach to our delivery of broadcast programming, but ossified laws and regulations stand in the way. We stand ready to work with this committee and the entire Congress as we renew STELA.

Attachment A

HISTORY OF THE VIDEO MARKETPLACE

1934

Communications Act¹

1936

There are only about 200 TVs in use worldwide²

1941

FCC authorizes commercial TV broadcast³

There are about 7,000 TV sets in the U.S.⁴

1946

First broadcast TV signal in color demonstrated to FCC by CBS⁵

1948

John Walson launched the first commercial cable television system in Mahanoy City, Pennsylvania⁶

Cable services deliver broadcast channels to communities in Oregon, Arkansas, and Pennsylvania⁷

1950

About 9,735,000 TV sets in the U.S. or 9% of households⁸

1952

70 cable systems serve 14,000 subs in rural areas⁹

1954

First nationwide color TV broadcast in U.S. Tournament of Roses parade¹⁰

1962

The FCC restricted a cable operator's actions in the Carter Mountain Transmission Corp v. FCC case when it denied the Riverton, Wyoming cable company permission to import distant broadcasters' signals¹¹

1963

For the 1st time Americans say they get more news from TV than newspapers¹²

1966

The FCC required cable operators operating in the 100 largest television markets (where 87 percent of the U.S. population then lived) to obtain formal permission—which almost never was granted—before importing distant signals¹³

1970

First cable programming networks emerge¹⁴

PBS network established¹⁵

1972

First pay-TV network - Home Box Office (HBO), owned by Time Warner¹⁶

FCC issued standards for the number of broadcast station signals that should be available in a community¹⁷

1977

C-SPAN launched¹⁸

1979

Nickelodeon (Viacom) & ESPN (The Walt Disney Co.) launched¹⁹

1980

Explosion of cable network options continues (28 networks), including 24/7 Cable News Network (CNN) owned by Time Warner²⁰

1981

MTV (Viacom) launched²¹

1984

Cable Act of 1984²²

FCC grants Hughes Communications Galaxy the authority to construct a DBS system²³

1986

Fox Broadcasting established²⁴

1990

57% of households subscribe to cable video service (79 cable networks)²⁵

1992

Cable Act of 1992²⁶

Construction begins on the DIRECTV Castle Rock Broadcast Center in Colorado²⁷

1993

First DIRECTV satellite, DBS-1 launches²⁸

1994

99% of U.S. households have at least 1 TV²⁹

DIRECTV's first customer, LeMoine Martin, purchases a DSS system at Cowboy Maloney's in Jackson, MS³⁰

ABC's *World News Now* was the first television show to be broadcast over the Internet³¹

1995

DIRECTV receives its first technical Emmy Award for its outstanding achievement in developing digital DBS technology³²

DIRECTV activates 1,000,000th customer³³

1996

Telecommunications Act of 1996³⁴

Cable residential broadband introduced³⁵

In just 2 years DIRECTV grows from 1 satellite to 3, 60 channels to 175+, 27 retailers to 25,000+, 1 manufacturer to 10, and 79 subs to 1.6 million³⁶

Dish Network officially began operations as a service of EchoStar³⁷

WRAL-HD broadcast the 1st HD signal to the public³⁸

DIRECTV activates 2,000,000th customer. Ranks 7th in the pay-TV market³⁹

Approximately 1 billion TVs in use worldwide⁴⁰

1998

Cable networks nearly triple in less than a decade (171 cable networks)⁴¹

DIRECTV becomes 1st national provider to deliver programming w/ 5.1 channel Dolby Digital surround sound⁴²

DIRECTV broadcasts the 1st coast-to-coast HD TV demonstration⁴³

1999

DIRECTV completes the acquisition of U.S. Satellite Broadcasting and surpasses the 7 million customer mark⁴⁴

DIRECTV PARA TODOS debuts for Spanish speaking customers⁴⁵

DIRECTV 1-R launches from a Sea Launch platform in the Pacific Ocean (1st commercial launch for Sea Launch consortium)⁴⁶

DIRECTV commences local broadcast network channels in its first two local channel markets NY & LA⁴⁷

Netflix launches its rental subscription service⁴⁸

2000

65 million cable subs⁴⁹

Fiber rich networks widely deployed⁵⁰

DIRECTV receiver with TiVo® service is launched laying foundation for DVR revolution⁵¹

2001

DIRECTV GOES TO SCHOOL launches free programming for K-12 schools (Today the service reaches more than 6,500 schools)⁵²

DIRECTV activates its 10,000,000th customer⁵³

DIRECTV launches 4S, its first spot-beam satellite providing capacity for 225 channels, which is mainly used to provide local channels to customers expanding to local footprint to 40 markets⁵⁴

Average American adult watches 4 hours of TV daily⁵⁵

2002

DIRECTV ranked highest in customer satisfaction by the American Customer Satisfaction Index for 1st time⁵⁶

DIRECTV receives the J.D. Power & Associates number one ranking for customer satisfaction among cable & DBS subs⁵⁷

Roku, Inc. founded⁵⁸

Netflix ends the year with 857,000 U.S. subs up 88% from 2001⁵⁹

2003

DIRECTV activates its 12,000,000th customer⁶⁰

2004

DIRECTV receives 1st Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Achievement in Interactive TV for its enhanced NFL Sunday Ticket® programming⁶¹

More than 98% of American households have a TV & the average home has more than 2⁶²

2005

YouTube launched⁶³

DIRECTV 8, the 10th satellite in company history launches⁶⁴

Verizon launches FiOS TV⁶⁵

Spaceway 2 launches, supporting the expansion of HD programming⁶⁶

DIRECTV activates its 15,000,000th customer⁶⁷

Netflix ends the year with 4.2 million U.S. subs up 60% from 2004⁶⁸

2006

DVRs and VoD enhance viewing options⁶⁹

115 million American homes with access to ultra-fast broadband networks⁷⁰

800 cable networks⁷¹

High-definition TV, digital phone, high-speed Internet access offered throughout U.S.⁷²

AT&T U-verse launches commercially in San Antonio⁷³

Amazon Unbox launched (precursor to Amazon Instant Video)⁷⁴

2007

13,000 AT&T U-verse customers in service with the fiber-rich network passing more than 2.8 million living units⁷⁵

AT&T U-verse OnTheGo introduced⁷⁶

DIRECTV Sat-Go goes on sale as the world's first portable satellite TV system⁷⁷

DIRECTV 10 launches to prepare for historic HD programming capacity expansion⁷⁸

DIRECTV launches 21 national HD channels, becoming the HD leader⁷⁹

Netflix adds streaming service and ends year with 7.5 million U.S. subs up 18% over 2006⁸⁰

2008

1 million Verizon FiOS TV subs⁸¹

DVR Scheduler debuts allowing customers the ability to schedule DVR recordings from their mobile phone or computer⁸²

Hulu launches⁸³

Roku Announces the Netflix Player by Roku⁸⁴

DIRECTV on DEMAND becomes available to customers nationwide⁸⁵

Netflix partners with Xbox 360, Blu-ray, TV set-top boxes, and Apple to deliver streaming content⁸⁶

Netflix available on Xbox transforms Xbox from gaming device to family TV device⁸⁷

2009

Digital TV Transition, June 12th⁸⁸

Amazon on Demand available on Roku⁸⁹

DIRECTV DVR Scheduler App for the Apple iPhone & iTouch is launched immediately becoming one of the most popular Apps⁹⁰

DIRECTV activates its 18,000,000th customer⁹¹

Netflix partners with PS3, Internet TVs and other Internet connected devices to deliver streaming content⁹²

Netflix ends the year with 12.3 million U.S. subs up 31% over 2008⁹³

2010

3 million Verizon FiOS TV subs⁹⁴

Roku partners with UFC to deliver live and on demand in HD⁹⁵

3D-at-home revealed at 2010 CES⁹⁶

DIRECTV 1st provider to launch 3D & provides free access to all HD customers⁹⁷

3D broadcast of MLB on FiOS⁹⁸

Netflix becomes available on iPad, iPhone, iPod, and Nintendo Wii among other Internet connected devices⁹⁹

Roku and Vimeo team up to bring video to TV¹⁰⁰

Roku announces content partnership with Hulu¹⁰¹

Roku and NHL bringing NHL GameCenter LIVE to TV¹⁰²

Boxee Box released¹⁰³

2011

Comcast receives approval for NBC Universal merger¹⁰⁴

Roku reaches 1 billion streams of content to the TV¹⁰⁵

Roku upgrades Crackle Channel to deliver full-length movies and TV shows¹⁰⁶

Roku enters retail with nationwide availability at Best Buy¹⁰⁷

Roku hits 15 million channel downloads¹⁰⁸

Roku expands to Wal-Mart¹⁰⁹

3.4 million U-verse TV subs¹¹⁰

Disney short-form videos available on Roku¹¹¹

Roku introduces new \$49 streaming player¹¹²

HBO GO launching on Roku¹¹³

Microsoft launches Xbox Apps Marketplace to 40 million Xbox LIVE users coupling gaming with digital content delivery¹¹⁴

2012

Aereo launches¹¹⁵

DISH launched Autohop and PrimeTime Anytime¹¹⁶

DISH and Roku ink strategic partnership for international programming¹¹⁷

Spotify music service launches on Roku¹¹⁸

93% of American households have access to cable broadband¹¹⁹

\$200 billion has been invested in networks and infrastructure since 1996¹²⁰

4.5 million U-verse TV subs¹²¹

Boxee Cloud DVR launched¹²²

2013

Verizon / Redbox JV launched public Beta¹²³

Roku surpasses 700 channels¹²⁴

TWC TV launching on Roku¹²⁵

DISH launched the Hopper with Sling¹²⁶

Google announced Google Fiber for Kansas City, KS and Austin, TX¹²⁷

Netflix reaches 29.17 million U.S. subs¹²⁸

Roku 3 introduced¹²⁹

AT&T launches Digital Life Home Security & Automation joining Comcast, TWC, and Verizon¹³⁰

YouTube launches paid subscription service¹³¹

Aereo launches in Boston and Atlanta metro regions¹³²

CenturyLink gaining traction with its Prism IPTV service; Now at 120,000 subs¹³³

EPA Names DIRECTV 2013 ENERGY STAR® Partner of the Year¹³⁴

DIRECTV Tops DISH and AT&T U-verse to continue 13-year winning streak over cable in 2013 American Customer Satisfaction Index¹³⁵

Endnotes

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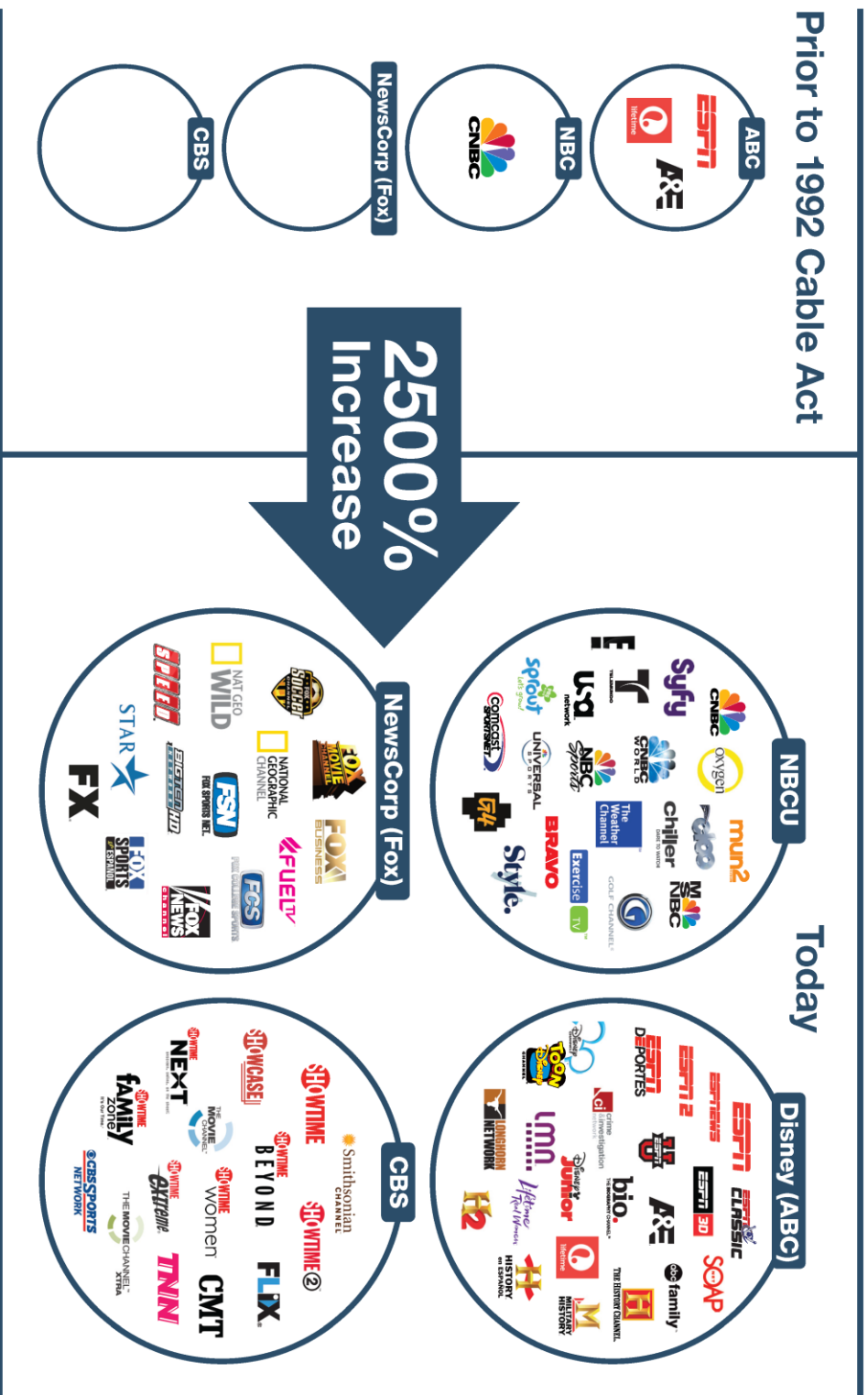
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Attachment B

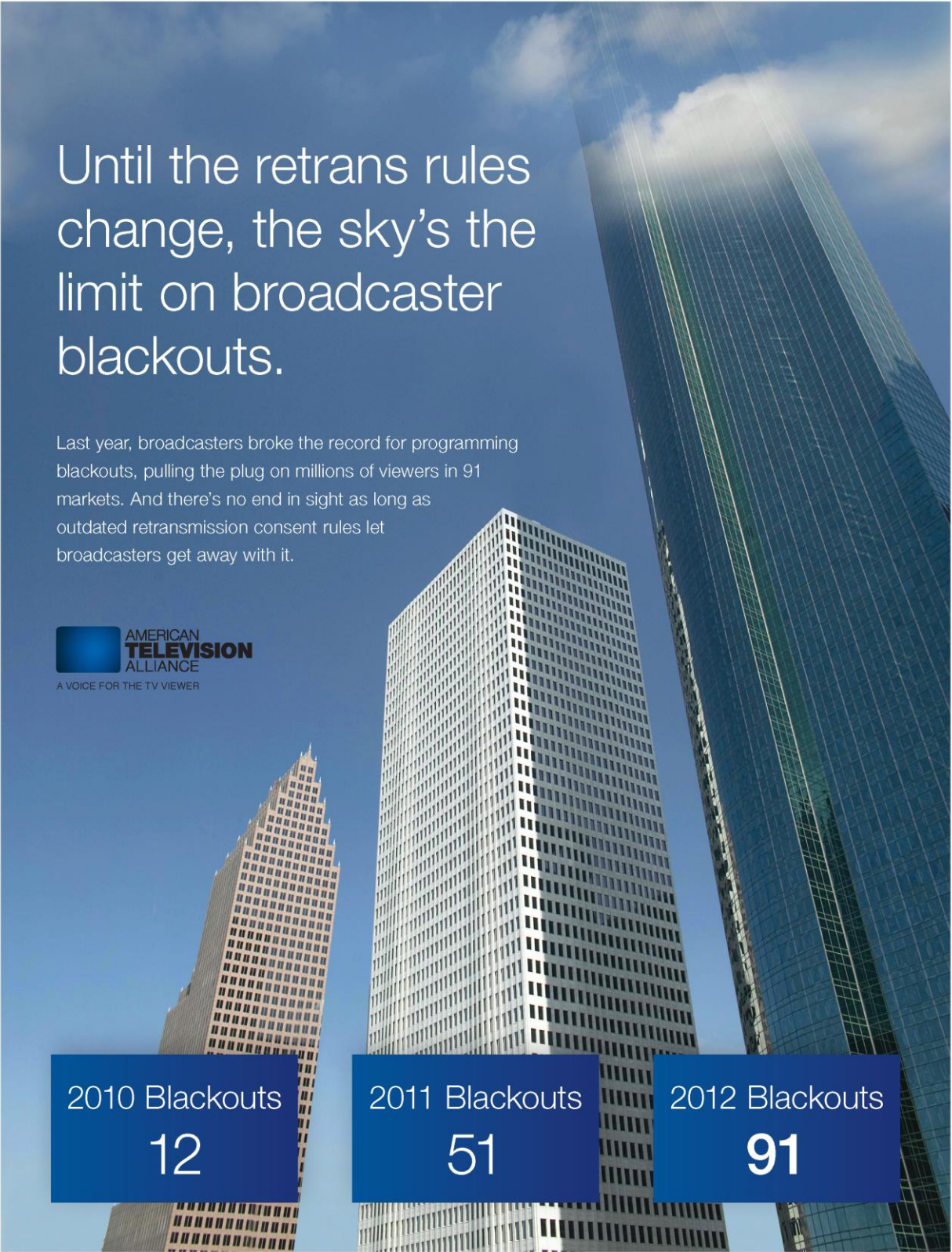
BROADCAST NETWORK OWNERSHIP



Prior to 1992, broadcast companies owned at least 4 cable networks. Today, they own at least 104 cable networks.
 Compilation based on public securities filings and other publicly available materials.
 Note: Not all networks shown in chart, e.g. multiple regional sports networks, though those networks are included in percent increase figure.



Attachment C



Until the retrans rules change, the sky's the limit on broadcaster blackouts.

Last year, broadcasters broke the record for programming blackouts, pulling the plug on millions of viewers in 91 markets. And there's no end in sight as long as outdated retransmission consent rules let broadcasters get away with it.



2010 Blackouts
12

2011 Blackouts
51

2012 Blackouts
91

BROADCASTER RETRANS BLACKOUTS 2010-2013

(as of April 29, 2013)

DATE	STATION OWNER	Provider	STATIONS	CITIES
6-Mar-10	Disney	Cablevision	ABC	New York, York New Jersey , Philadelphia, Connecticut
September 2 – September 16, 2011	Citadel Communications	Time Warner Cable	ABC	Lincoln, NE
October 15 - October 30 2010	News Corp	Cablevision	FOX	New York, New Jersey, Philadelphia, Connecticut
Dec 15 – January 7, 2011	Smith Media LLC	Time Warner	NBC and CW-11	Burlington/Plattsburgh and Utica, VT and NY
Dec 16 2010- Dec 30 2010	Chambers	DISH	ABC	Oregon
Jan 1 2011 – Jan, 7 2011	KOMU	Mediacom	NBC & CW	Columbia, MO
Jan 1 - February 2, 2011	Northwest	DIRECTV	Fox	Yakima and Spokane WA, Medford, OR & Binghamton, NY
Jan 1 – Jan, 15 2011	Frontier Radio	DISH	Fox & ABC	Central Georgia (Macon)
March 5 – March 14, 2011	LIN Media	DISH	CBS, FOX, NBC, CW and MyNetwork affiliates	17 markets: Albuquerque, N.M.; Austin, Texas; Buffalo, N.Y.; Columbus, Ohio; Dayton, Ohio; Fort Wayne, Ind.; Grand Rapids, Mich.; Green Bay, Wis.; Indianapolis; Lafayette, Ind.; Mobile, Ala.; New Haven, Conn.; Norfolk, Va.; Providence, R.I.; Springfield, Mass.; Terre Haute, Ind.; and Toledo, Ohio
March 31 – June 2, 2011	Woods Communications	DISH		Montgomery, AL

March – May 2011	WUNI-TV	Full Channel	Univision	Rhode Island viewers of Worcester, MA station
May 2 – June 21, 2011	WCOV Fox20	DISH	Fox	Montgomery – Selma, AL
July 1 – October 14, 2011	ComCorp	DISH	Fox	Evansville, IN
August 31 – October 15, 2011	LIN Media	Mediacom	ABC, CBS, Fox, NBC, CW affiliates	Mobile-Pensacola; Grand Rapids – Kalamazoo – Battle Creek; Green Bay – Appleton; Ft. Wayne; Lafayette; Terre Haute; Norfolk
September 3 – September 11, 2011	Prime Citites	DISH		Minot/Bismarck/Dickinson, ND
October 31, 2011 – Dec 21, 2011	Sarkes Tazian	DISH	NBC, CBS	Chattanooga; Reno
Dec 12, 2011 – May 25, 2012	Cordillera Communications	Time Warner Cable	NBC, Telemundo, CW South Texas	Corpus Christi
Dec 15 – Dec 21, 2011	Heritage Broadcasting	DISH	CBS, Fox	Traverse City, MI
Dec 31, 2011 – February 2, 2012	Rapid City Broadcasting	DISH		Rapid City, SD
January 1, 2012 (Settled)	Jackson/Lingard/Southern	DISH	ABC, Fox, NBC	Columbus-Tupelo, Mississippi
January 1, 2012 – May 1, 2012	Wyomedia/Silverton/Mark III	DISH	Fox, ABC, and CBS	Casper, WY
January 1, 2012 – May 1, 2012	Wyomedia/Silverton/Mark III	DISH	Fox, ABC	Cheyenne, WY
Jan 1, 2012 – February 2, 2012	KNBN	DISH	NBC	Rapid City, SD
January 1, 2012 –	Allbritton	Shentel	ABC	Suburban Washington, DC
Jan 5 – Feb 17, 2012	Hoak Media	Golden West	ABC	Sioux Falls, SD
Jan 13 – January 26, 2012	Sunbeam Television Corp	DirectTV	Fox, NBC	Miami; Boston

Jan 13 – Jan 15, 2012	Newport Television	Verizon FiOS	CBS, CW Television, My Network, ABC, Fox	Harrisburg, Pa; Syracuse, NY; Albany, NY
Jan. 27, 2012 – May 10, 2012	Turner Broadcasting System	DISH	Independent	Atlanta
Jan. 31 – Feb 21, 2012	Louisiana Media	DISH	Fox	New Orleans
Jan 31 – February 4, 2012	Eagle Creek	DISH		Laredo, TX
February 29 – March 9, 2012	Bayou City Broadcasting	DISH	Fox	Abilene, TX and San Angelo, TX
March 16 – March 17, 2012	Murphy Media	DISH	CBS, ABC, My Network	Yakima , WA; Spokane, WA; LaCrosse – Eau Claire, WI; Madison, WI
March 31 – April 5, 2012	Tribune	DirecTV	independent stations, Fox, ABC and The CW affiliates	<i>19 Markets:</i> Los Angeles – Sacramento – San Diego, CA; Denver; Hartford, CT; Miami – Fort Lauderdale, FL; Chicago; Indianapolis; New Orleans; Grand Rapids, MI; St. Louis, MO; New York, NY; Harrisburg – Philadelphia, PA; Portland, OR; Dallas – Houston, TX; Seattle, WA; Washington D.C.
April 1 – April 13, 2012	Pappas Telecasting	DirecTV	Fox, ABC, CW, Azteca	Lincoln, NE; Omaha, NE; Des Moines, IA; Yuma, AZ
April 9, 2012 – May 16, 2012	Prime Cities Broadcasting, Inc.	Midcontinent Communications	Fox	Bismarck, ND
May 31, 2011 – June 6, 2012	Block Communications	Time Warner Cable	Fox, MyNetworkTV	Louisville, KY
June 5 – July 3, 2012	Diversified Communications	DirecTV	CBS, CW, ABC	Bangor ME; Gainesville, FL

June 7 – June 13, 2012	Hoak Media	DISH	ABC, CBS, Fox, NBC	Grand Junction, CO; Fargo, ND; Panama City, FL; North Platte, NE; Lincoln, NE; Sioux Falls, SD; Monroe, LA; Alexandria, LA
July 1, 2012 – July 18, 2012	West Virginia Media	DISH	NBC, ABC, CBS, Fox	Clarksburg - Weston, WV; Charleston - Huntington, WV; Bluefield - Beckley, WV; Wheeling, WV -Steubenville, OH
July 6, 2012 – July 24, 2012	WFMJ-TV	DISH	NBC	Youngstown, Ohio
July 10, 2012 – July 19, 2012	Hearst	Time Warner Cable	ABC, NBC, CBS and CW affiliates	Hawaii; Boston, MA; Portland, ME; Hartford, VT; Plattsburgh, NY; Winston-Salem, NC; Kansas City, MO; Lincoln, NE; Louisville, KY; Cincinnati, OH and Pittsburgh, PA
August 13, 2012 – October 26, 2012	Northwest Broadcasting	DirectTV	ABC, CBS and NBC affiliates	Spokane, WA; Yakima-Pasco-Richland-Kennewick, WA; Medford-Klamath Falls, OR; Binghamton, NY
August 17, 2012 – October 29, 2012	Tribune Broadcasting	Cablevision	CW, MyNetwork, Fox	New York; Waterbury, CT; Denver, CO; Philadelphia; Hartford, CT
September 4 – September 4, 2012 (1 day)	Dispatch Broadcast	Dish	CBS, NBC	Columbus, OH; Indianapolis, IN
November 26, 2012- January 12, 2013	Northwest Broadcasting	Dish	Fox	Spokane, WA; Yakima, WA; Medford, OR; Binghamton, NY
December 18, 2012-January 25, 2013	Cedar Rapids TV	Dish	ABC affiliate	Cedar Rapids, IA
January 1, 2012-	Mt. Baker Cable	Cox	CBS	Seattle, WA

May 30, 2012-	TVC (InterBel) Morgan Murphy	TVC (InterBel)	ABC	Spokane, WA
December 12, 2012- January 21, 2013	American Spirit	Buckeye Cable	FOX	Toledo, OH

Total Markets Blacked Out in 2012: 91