

ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115
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January 13, 2016

Mr. Gerard J. Waldron
Partner
Covington & Burling LLP
One CityCenter
850 Tenth Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Mr. Waldron:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology on Thursday, December 3, 2015, to testify at the hearing entitled "Broadcast Ownership in the 21st Century."

Pursuant to the Rules of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the hearing record remains open for ten business days to permit Members to submit additional questions for the record, which are attached. The format of your responses to these questions should be as follows: (1) the name of the Member whose question you are addressing, (2) the complete text of the question you are addressing in bold, and (3) your answer to that question in plain text.

To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, please respond to these questions with a transmittal letter by the close of business on January 27, 2016. Your responses should be mailed to Greg Watson, Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 and e-mailed in Word format to Greg.Watson@mail.house.gov.

Thank you again for your time and effort preparing and delivering testimony before the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,



Greg Walden
Chairman
Subcommittee on Communications and Technology

cc: Anna G. Eshoo, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology

Attachment

Attachment —Additional Questions for the Record

The Honorable Gus Bilirakis

1. Mr. Waldron, I am concerned with the FCC rules effect on localism, *or a preference for one's own area or region*, which you highlight in your testimony.

I agree that local content remains vitally important, and that Americans still rely on local programming for necessary information every day. Can you explain a bit further how updating these rules will allow broadcasters to retain and expand their vital role in times of emergencies and local concern?

2. Mr. Waldron, this hearing is focused on the legacy ownership regulations that were instituted around the time Elvis was still performing in Las Vegas, and I think we've heard a lot on how these rules may be actually counterproductive today.

Aside from the FCC updating its rules, what can Congress do to improve competition, diversity, and localism for broadcasters?

The Honorable Anna G. Eshoo

1. In your September testimony, you highlighted the NAB's Education Foundation and its Broadcast Leadership Training Program (BLT). Have you found a quantifiable increase in the number of minorities serving as station heads or owners since the program started? With respect to station management, why do you think there are so few minorities being elevated into positions of leadership?
2. Broadcasters hold a special place in the communities of our country – they use the public airwaves and are the primary source of local news. Yet we keep hearing from some that broadcasters should not be subject to industry-specific legal and regulatory obligations. Don't we have an obligation to make sure broadcasters keep to their side of the bargain?