

RE: MB Docket No. 17-106

From: Mark E. Bohach Co-Owner, WLOH Radio Company

Date: June 16, 2017

To the Federal Communications Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above referenced matter regarding the potential relaxation of the Main Studio Rule for Radio Broadcasters.

When I first heard of this proposed rule change I initially thought that my radio station- WLOH (AM) Lancaster, Ohio would not be affected. After all, our studios have been in our city of license since 1948 and we have no intention of moving anywhere else. My wife and I are the two fulltime employees of the station and provide the management and staff presence required under the current rules.

But I have come to realize that we are the very people who would really benefit from a relaxation or elimination of the main studio rules.

Without a Main Studio Rule, we would still come to the station and perform our duties. WLOH would serve the community as it has for nearly seventy years.

However, we would not be stressed that the FCC might show up and find the door locked if I happen to be at a sales appointment and my wife needs to go to the bank or run any type of errand. Or when our daughter gets sick at school and we need to be home to take care of family matters.

A relaxation of the main studio rule would allow us the freedom to adjust our business hours according to season and demand. It would also allow us to staff the station- not simply to satisfy a rule- but to better serve the operations of our station.

I have read some of the previous comments filed on this issue that are against any sort of relaxation. I understand the intent of these commenters and I believe they are well meaning. They assert that large operators will further consolidate their operations and eliminate main studios in smaller communities. The fact is, this has already happened and there have always been ways to get around the main studio rule if an operator chooses to do so. Take for example Educational Media Foundation, the not for profit operator of Air 1 and K-Love stations nationwide and where their networks of stations and translators are all operated from California.

Therefore I believe that the good to be derived from a relaxation or elimination of the main studio rule far outweighs any negatives. I therefore ask that the Federal Communications Commission eliminate the Main Studio Rule as it currently exists.

Give good local broadcasters the freedom to decide for themselves how and where to operate and staff their stations.