**I strongly urge the FCC to deny the merger petition between Sinclair Broadcast Group and Tribune Media. Sinclair is currently the nation’s largest broadcast company and these two groups merge, they would own television stations reaching 72% of American households – thereby consolidating the power to decide what information reaches us into the hands of a powerful few. Sinclair has a history of forcing local stations (WSYR in Syracuse is one) to air politically biased segments produced at their Headquarters, rather than news that reflects concerns and interests of the communities.**

**I watched in horror as “news anchors” from around the country read a prepared statement simultaneously talking about ‘fake news’ and media bias – two phrases repeatedly used that man in the White House when he wants to deny any wrongdoing on his part. Our country’s democratic institutions are under attack by 45 and his cronies – and we cannot stay silent. Please, please, please deny this merger petition…or we could end up with government-run media and lose even more of our civil rights.**

**Thank you.**