

November 9, 2017

**Ex Parte**

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: MB Docket Nos. 14-50, 09-182, 07-294 and 04-256

Dear Ms. Dortch,

On November 8, Discovery Institute Senior Fellow George Gilder and I met separately with Alison Nemeth, Media Advisor in the Office of Chairman Ajit Pai and Brooke Ericson, Chief of Staff and Senior Legal Advisor-Media in the Office of Commissioner Mike O’Rielly, and on November 9 we met with Nirali Patel, Acting Legal Advisor for Media, Consumer Protection and Enforcement in the Office of Commissioner Brendan Carr regarding the above-referenced proceedings.

We expressed our unqualified support for removing media ownership rules which pre-date cable television and the Internet and can best be described as outdated, unnecessary and counter-productive. As a result of these new sources of information, there is more competition and viewpoint diversity now than ever. Localism, on the other hand, is in dire straights as a result of a massive migration of advertising to the Internet during the past decade. Repealing the newspaper-broadcast cross-ownership restriction as well as the arbitrary broadcast ownership limits would promote investment in local journalism by giving publishers and broadcasters the flexibility to seek new sources of revenue and pursue new efficiencies.

Sincerely,

*Hance Haney*

Hance Haney  
Senior Fellow  
Discovery Institute



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