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RM-9335

From: Lewis M Busch <busl@juno.com>
To: A7.A7(WKENNARD)
Date: 8/5/98 3:54pm
Subject: RE: Home Satellites & Grade "B" Broadcast Signal Maps

Dear Chairman Kennard and fellow commissioners,

I believe that it's an appropriate time for the FCC to re-address the issue of Grade "B" broadcast signal maps especially in light of new satellite technology.

In my opinion the 1950's standards don't apply and broadcasters should not be allowed to use such standards to limit customer access to satellite delivered network programming packages.

Please look to use a more realistic standard (not the 50% of homes 50% of the time with an antenna 30 feet above the ground) for satellite delivered distant network signals.

Thank you,

Lewis Busch
750 Holt Ave.
El Centro, CA 92243
760-353-2935

CC: J1.J1(RKEENEY), A7.A7(SNESS), A4.A4(FCCINFO), FCCMAIL...

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From: Janet Hoxie <ghoxie@wyoming.com>
To: A4.A4 (SSEGAL)
Date: 8/5/98 2:32pm
Subject: Comments to the Chairman

Janet Hoxie (ghoxie@wyoming.com) writes.

The recent restriction of network television signals in selected areas (which I'm told comprise 90% of the U.S.) absolutely stinks. Here in Wyoming, we only get one television station with a watchable picture from our rooftop antenna. This station is located 250 miles from us. Do you think I will shop with their advertisers? I don't think so. The last time I was in Rapid City was 2 years ago, on vacation. The only reason we get a signal from this station is because there is a repeater here in Sheridan. However, there is virtually NO advertising from our local merchants. So, I am forced to watch 2nd class news broadcasts, by inferior communication school rejects, that have nothing to do with our local area. Furthermore, what if I want to watch a network other than ABC? The NBC, CBS and Fox affiliates all have unwatchable signals, and the closest one of these is still 130 miles away. I'm simply not going to run out to one of their advertisers on the spur of the moment!

If it weren't for the fact that I already subscribe to the networks out of Denver, and can therefore continue to get them, I wouldn't be able to watch network TV at all! Do the national advertisers who spend big bucks with the networks realize that this restriction limits their market penetration? If I can't watch the networks at all, there's a lot of advertising I'm missing, and most of it is NOT local.

Aside from the total inconvenience to me, this legislation is wrong. It is a violation of free speech. If the signals are available, then I should be able to watch them. This is just another example of lobbyists railroading the American people into something they do not want. Or in this case, keeping me from something to which I have every right. Tell the cable operators to back off and let us watch what we want! The cable industry and network TV are simply looking to get as much out of Americas' pockets as they can, without regard to what is logical, reasonable, and what we C-band users want. Why do you think there has been such a huge growth in the number of satellite systems? It's because the cable operators have been ripping us off for too long!

In my case, cable is not an alternative, so I can't even get what I want to watch, even if it was allowed. This legislation is a gross inconvenience to many, and has angered a huge number of people, who are mad because you have allowed their freedom of choice to be taken away! I will be writing my congressman and senators, to ask them to get involved in this issue. If they can't or aren't willing to help us out, then I certainly won't be willing to give them my vote.

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From: William Hermelin <BillSector001@webtv.net>
To: A7.A7 (SNESS, WKENNARD), FCCMAIL.SMTPNLM("dlatham", "r...
Date: 8/5/98 12:21am
Subject: Laws affecting satellite customers

Hello

I'm currently a Dish network subscriber. It is my understanding that Dish Network can transmit my local stations via satellite but is prevented from doing so because of current legislation. Also there's a new rule now states that if one lives in a non-eligible zipcode, that person is automatically disqualified from receiving the national feeds of the networks regardless of whether a person can not receive the local affiliates by rooftop antenna.

The requirement of having to be rid of cable for 90 days is also unfair to satellite customers and needs to be changed as well. This ruling is only serving the cable industry and hurting the satellite industry which is not fair for competition.

This ruling is unfair and anti-competitive by trying to force satellite customers to support the cable industry

Thank you for your attention on this matter

Bill Hermelin

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