

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "brianne kotschwar" <princessbri2000@yahoo.com>
To: <Info@ACB.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 8:47 PM
Subject: I support descriptive video

to whom it may concern,
My name is Brianne Kotschwar and I am a supporter of the descriptive video. I feel that it is easier for my friends and I to watch videos is with the descriptive video. If we didn't have descriptive videos, then it would be able to watch videos with knowing what was going on in the movie. I hope that we can still have descriptive videos to watch. Thank you for your time.
Sincerely,
Brianne Kotschwar

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Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Linda Ray" <echog@kcnet.com>
To: <Info@ACB.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 8:40 PM
Subject: I Support Video Description

Dear FCC Members,

I am a teacher of the visually impaired and am aware of the significant difference video description makes in the lives of visually impaired individuals and their family and friends. I know many visually impaired people who simply don't watch TV or movies unless they are video described because they miss so much of the action that most programs cease to be interesting and they feel uncomfortable asking family members to constantly describe all of the action.

I have willingly attempted to describe both TV shows and movies to blind students and friends and it is not easy. To do it well you need to at least know the characters immediately on sight and be able to think really fast to get the vital information in without overrunning the dialogue. I can imagine that needing to do that constantly could add significant stress to family relationships. Parents could seldom have a relaxing evening in front of the television always feeling the need to offer to video describe every show.

I know it is also uncomfortable for blind young adults to ask friends to describe the action. Describing action that involves sexual innuendos can be very difficult for the individual asked to describe and result in embarrassment on both sides. What often happens is the describer simply leaves out those parts which of course leaves the listener guessing.

Whenever I purchase a movie I always buy the DVS version if it is available. I'm so thrilled to have Eyes on the Prize in DVS as the descriptions help all young people identify the myriad of important people that show up in those films briefly. I would sure hate to be held responsible for identifying all of those people as they flit through that documentary even if that time period in history holds great interest for me. I myself enjoy described programs, particularly documentaries.

I strongly feel that the original time line for DVS description to be instituted needs to be stuck with to the letter. It is a vitally important service to a large number of our citizens.

Sincerely yours.

Linda J Ray
4916 W. 78th Place
Prairie Village, KS 66208
(913) 642-7530

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Roger Purdy" <rapurdy@flash.net>
To: <info@acb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 8:35 PM
Subject: I Support Video Description

I support the FCC in not retreating **from their** video description order. I need video description implemented on schedule in April.
Roger Purdy

Barbara Vodapivc

From: <GERENABURK@aol.com>
To: <Info@acb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 8:32 PM
Subject: "I support video description"

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Roger Acuna" <etl@ilrccc.org>
To: <info@acb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 7:18 PM
Subject: I support audeo video □□□discription! □□□□□I support audio discription

To the secretary of the FCC:

I fully enjoy audio described television, movies, videos, and cable broadcasts. I am requesting that you withdrawal your motion to deny access to vision impaired persons of audio discription broadcasts. I am specifically refering to docket number: 99-339. I seriously urge that audio discription broadcasts continue to grow and see that it does not fade away.

Thank you,
Roger Acuna
2751 Monument Blvd Apt 44
Concord CA 94518

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Jim and Sue Martin" <smartin@downeast.net>
To: <info@acb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 7:20 PM
Subject: I support video description

We support the FCC in not retreating from their video description order. We need video description implemented on schedule in April.

Jim & Sue Martin
76 Hanson's Landing
Ellsworth, ME 04605

2/27/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Stephen Miyagawa" <storecampsteve@earthlink.net>
To: <CCrawford@ACB.org>
Cc: <Info@ACB.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 9:38 PM
Subject: I adamantly support video description. Please delete my previous E mail which was undated.

The honorable Mr. William Caton, Secretary

Federal Communications Commission February 26, 2002

445 12th St SW

Washington, DC 20554

Dear Secretary Katon,

There comes a time, when we must fight for the rights of our blind and visually impaired citizens of our great country. This happens to be the time, when the National Association of

Broadcasters, the National Cable Telecommunications Association

and the Motion Picture Association of America have filed a

petition late last Friday at the FCC to stay the implementation

of the video description rule until after the

court appeal is decided. Their recent flagrant maneuver to deny the blind access to descriptive video, proves that the Secretary of FCC investigate this with greatest of scrutiny. It is highly suspect that these magnets in this business simply refuse to provide the blind access to their media with descriptive video.

The hotel, restaurants, public transportation, commercial places with elevators including public bathrooms are required by the ADA to provide easy access to the handicaps. Those in the field of movie entertainment, cable and television should not be allowed to abrogate the ADA law singling out the blind. This is a blatant discriminatory act, aimed at our blind citizens.

If you will take the time to invision a newly blind who was once accustomed to see and suddenly his or her objective world disappeared before one's eyes. The age old fear and anxiety often overwhelm the newly blind. As sightlessness befell them, so did their orientation to the external world. As their land marks vanished, they could not determine their whereabouts; giving them the feeling that they are in a vast and boundless desert devoid of all land marks, until vision can be restored, We must not pose any obstacles to one who could no longer see what is happening or see what others were doing or had written. Their impotency to cope with the

most ordinary situations such as reading personal and business letters or read their own reply they had written on the typewriter or even going to the latrine which often unnerve most blind persons. They have enough hardships compounded by the cluster of incapacities which heavily taxed his or her efficiency, of movement, thought and emotion, seriously impairing one's independence. Why do the magnets in the entertainment field choose to deprive the rights of the blind easy access. The seriousness of taking advantage of the blind is simply deplorable. should If the great Helen Keller were still living she would have been at the forefront, eloquently causing embarrassment to those who are discriminating our blind.

I am thus compelled to write a letter of defense for the rights of our blind citizens who have not asked for much from our government for their comfort. Please let us not deny them the little enjoyment and entertainment they derive from the descriptive video. The industry makes phenomenal financial gains and the blind, in all probability have already contributed toward the commercials. Why should they be penalized with the absence of video description.

I adamantly support the requirement that industry start

broadcasting DVS on schedule. Reference: MM docket number 99-339. I hope the FCC resolves this matter with judicious dispatch thus renewing the faith of the blind and visually impaired.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen H. Miyagawa

535 N. Michigan Avenue

Apt. 1801

Chicago, IL 60611-3885

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Bob & Carol Taylor" <qth4@attbi.com>
To: <Info@ACB.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 1:44 PM
Subject: I support Descriptive Videos

To Whom It May Concern:

it is important that this service be supplies. Blind individuals watch TV, movies and documentaries as much or more so than sighted individuals.

The only description we receive now is on PBS and I've enjoyed it. It is the first time I've totally been aware of what is going on during the show. It would be wonderful if everything could be this way. It seems unfair that deaf have a chip in the TV and are able to have narrative done that way, while the blind is still fighting for this right.

Since the ADA has been passed it seems that we are taking longer to get our rights and benefits from this legistration.

Thanks

Carol Taylor

2/26/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Robert Langford" <boblang@airmail.net>
To: <Info@ACB.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 12:06 PM
Subject: "I support video description"

Secretary of the FCC

Mr. William Ca ton, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 15th Street, SW
Washington, DC 29554

Reference MM Docket no. 99-339.

From Robert Langford Ph. D
11330 Quail Run
Dallas, Tx 75238

Please consider the needs of those who can benefit greatly from the added audio description.

Thanks

send a copy to me at the National Office.

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Dawn Wilcox" <dewilcox@pacbell.net>
To: <Info@ACB.org>
Cc: <ccrawford@acb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 12:30 PM
Subject: I support video description

Secretary of the FCC
Re: MM docket number 99-339

Dear Sir: I just heard about the broadcast, cable and movie people trying to block DVS which is to start in a modest way in April this year. As a visually impaired person, this is very disappointing news. Many of us have now obtained vcr and tvs which handle SAP signal information. We need the information that DVS will give us as much as the deaf community needs closed captioning. I have already waited for several years for my local cable company (AT&T, previously Palo Alto Cable Coop) to simply forward the DVS that TCM (Turner Classic Movies) already sends out on some of its movies. In order to be a full participant in our work and home communities we blind/visually impaired people need to share the information that sighted people obtain from tv and movies.

Sincerely, Dawn Wilcox RN
810 Wintergreen Way , Palo Alto, CA 94303

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Joni Metcalf" <joni_metcalf@hotmail.com>
To: <info@ACB.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 5:41 PM
Subject: I support video description

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a parent of a nine year old son who is visually impaired due to a terminal illness that he has. If I want my son to see a movie at the theater I normally spend \$160-\$165 to have him see it. This is quite a lot of money especially for him to go and enjoy a Disney movie, but when the movies theaters are not equipped with audio description that is what an audio describer costs. I feel that it is very important to have this in normal programming and would definitely like to see it done. I know that there is closed caption for the hearing impaired and I don't feel that those who are visually impaired should be overlooked. They are just as important as any one of us who don't have a physical disability.

I would greatly appreciate anything that can be done so that my child can enjoy audio described programming.

Thank you!

Joni Metcalf
5376 Cottage Ave
White Bear Twp Mn 55110
(651)429-3871

Please do not put me on a solicitation list of any kind.

Chat with friends online, try MSN Messenger: <http://messenger.msn.com>

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Gayle" <gayle@cloudnet.com>
To: <info@acb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 7:06 PM
Subject: I support Descriptive Video

Hello, I am a blind person who has been waiting for descriptive t.v. programming ever since I heard of it. Having the t.v. programming described makes it possible for me to get an idea of what is going on in t.v. programs especially in silent spots where there is no dialog to get an idea of what is happening during those silent parts of the programs. Also, I would appreciate it if the weather bulletins that appear silently as words going across the bottom of the screen and weather maps that appear at the top of the screen be audibly read or described. Any help you can give is appreciated. Thanks for your consideration in this matter. If you have questions of me, you may contact me at gayle@cloudnet.com. Again Thanks for your consideration. Gayle Gruber-Bengtson

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Milleville Barbara" <milleville_barbara@bah.com>
To: <Info@ACB.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 1:10 PM
Attach: milleville_barbara.vcf
Subject: I support video description

Mr. William Caton, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Caton:

Reference MM Docket no. 99-339

I support the requirement that industry start broadcasting DVS on schedule. I am visually impaired and require this to gain access to the news and other information that sighted folks can get without these tools. This is not an unreasonable request in my opinion. In addition to helping those with visual impairments now, you will assist all of those baby boomers who will become disabled very soon. The movie, cable and TV industries have a lot to gain as well as this population has a great deal of disposable income. Cable companies have a habit of increasing rates but what exactly are we getting in return? Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Barbara J. Milleville
2712 Livingstone Lane
Apt. 103
Vienna, VA 22180-7264

2/26/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Robert Seitzberg" <bomer@cableone.net>
To: <Info@ACB.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 11:21 PM
Subject: I support Descriptive Video

To: Mr. William Caton, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 15th Street, SW
Washington, DC 29554

Reference MM Docket no. 99-339

Dear Mr. Caton,

I strongly object to a delay in implementing "Descriptive Video" as requested by the movie, cable and television industry. It is extremely important that the blind or visually impaired people of our great nation be given better access to television programming. They will never be able to enjoy TV programs like a sighted person but video description will help them and it should be implemented in April as scheduled. The movie, cable and television industry as one of the wealthiest groups in the world today should be proud to do God's work and give blind people improved ability for accessing video information.

Sincerely,
Robert C. Seitzberg, Lt Col. USAF Ret.
2550 Love Ln.
Prescott, Az. 86305

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Sue Boigon" <sboigon@cdsnet.net>
To: <info@acb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 10:52 PM
Subject: I support video description

I support the FCC in not retreating from the video description order. I would like to have this order implemented as scheduled.
Sue Boigon

2/27/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Paul L Vance" <JUDY_PAUL@prodigy.net>
To: <Info@ACB.org>
Cc: <CCrawford@ACB.org>; "Ron Brooks" <RLRB@Concentric.net>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 11:38 PM
Subject: I support video description

To whom it may concern:

It has come to my attention that, someone is messing around with an FCC rule **MM Docket no. 99-339**). Should I be informed that this action results from three reasons (you pick the reasons), none being greed, I will quietly take my marbles and go home.

Now that we are in the twenty-first century let us reach for sophistication and sensitivity to those of us who require a bit of assistance.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this matter. Should you desire further discussion with me, contact me at:

Judith Smith
320 Sierra PL NE
Albuquerque, NM 87108

Telephone 505-266-1241

cc: Charles Crawford, Executive Director ACB
Ron Brooks, President Albuquerque ACB
William Caton, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission

2/27/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "T. J. Rush" <tarush@swbell.net>
To: <Info@ACB.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 11:32 PM
Subject: I support Video Description

TO: Mr. William Caton, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St SW
Washington, DC 205547

RE: MM Docket # 99-339

Dear Mr. Caton:

I support video description and I am appalled at the request of the movie, cable, and broadcast industrys to get off the hook at this final hour regarding MM docket number 99-339. This is another unfair attempt to write off the blind and visually impaired.

After finally believeing their needs would be met and they would actually receive some semblance of "fair and adequate" treatment which they have waited so long for, it's unconscionable the industry would make a request to delay implementation. Most assuredly a very large percentage of our population will ultimatly be visually impaired, and to act as though these individuals as well as the blind don't deserve the same access and enjoyment the rest of us enjoy is socially irresponsible.

Please don't allow this delay and maltreatment any longer.

Sincerely,

Anita Rush
13606 Runney Meade Dr
Sugar Land, TX 77478
281-491-7302

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "marion & Bill Cumming" <marionwill@ozemail.com.au>
To: <info@ACB.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 10:08 PM
Subject: I support video description

Attention Secretary of the FCC
Reference: MM docket number 99-339

As a Talking Book Narrator for 27 years and an Audio Describer for the past 2, I strongly object to the National Assn of Broadcasters, the National Cable Telecommunications Assn and the Motion Picture Assn of America their late petitioning to stay the implementation of the video description rule until the court appeal is decided.

I have personally witnessed the added pleasure of sight handicapped people enjoying not only books, but now theatre productions, museums and videos with the aid of audio descriptions. To be able to enjoy sight gags, gestures and expressions instantaneously instead of waiting for someone informing them of why the audience is laughing or what actions are happening without accompanying dialogue adds to their appreciation of performances.

Audio description requires lengthy training, the unbreakable rules of not speaking across dialogue and strictly describing actions without personal interpretations are paramount.

It is everyone's right to enjoy all forms of entertainment and as trained Describers are available to do this special task, it is inconceivable that a section of the community could be deprived of these pleasures.

Signed: Marion Cumming, 42 James Cook Island, Sylvania Waters NSW 2224, Australia

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Christopher Collins" <ccollins1@bigfoot.com>
To: <info@acb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 9:59 PM
Subject: I Support Video description.

To: Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Washington DC

From: Christopher Collins
1842 Port Ashley Place
Newport Beach CA 92660

Dear Sir:

This letter is in reference to MM Docket Number 99-339. I want to let you know that as a person who has been totally blind my entire life, that I strongly support the need for video description for the blind on television. It significantly contributes to our independence and to our life's enrichment. The commercial broadcast networks should not be exempted from providing this service to us which is similar in its consequences to that which they provide to those who are deaf. The broadcast networks need to live up to their social responsibility of making television equally accessible to all, and they need to do it NOW. Thank you.

2/27/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Clinton Moore" <CLINTFROMFLA@webtv.net>
To: <Info@ACB.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 9:51 PM
Subject: Video Description

We support Video Description

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Mar and Jay" <mnjg@attbi.com>
To: <info@acb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 9:44 PM
Subject: I support video description

I support the FCC in not retreating from their video description order. I support video description implemented on schedule in April.

2/27/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Lois Davis" <ljdavis@execpc.com>
To: <info@acb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 3:40 PM
Subject: I support Descriptive Video

Hello,

Please add my name to the list as well as my husband, Howard J. Davis
(hdavis@execpc.com).

I would like to add the name of Elizabeth Wittmann who is blind and lives in
Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She has no e-mail, but she and I have been making
several contacts to fight for Turner on DVS.

Thank you.

Lois J. Davis
glad if

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Jeffrey Frank" <jyd@frontiernet.net>
To: <Info@ACB.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 3:41 PM
Subject: I Support Video Discription

2/27/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: <melvin.friedman@att.net>
To: <Info@ACB.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 3:40 PM
Subject: I support video description.

2/27/02