



DOCKET FILE COPY 06-181

Federal Communications Commission
Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau
Washington, D.C. 20554

CGB

December 11, 2006

FILED/ACCEPTED
JAN - 9 2007
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
Control No. 060295-Pol

Ms. Teresa Adkins
247 2nd Avenue
Ripley, WV 25271-1521

Dear Ms. Adkins:

Thank you for your letter to Congresswoman Shelley Moore Capito, concerning recent Commission actions granting certain exemptions from our closed captioning rules. Congresswoman Capito forwarded your letter to the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) for our review and requested that the response be addressed directly to you. The Commission is committed to ensuring that the disability community has access to all telecommunications goods and services.

On September 11, 2006, the Commission's Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau adopted an *Order* resolving two petitions for exemption from the closed captioning rules, CG Docket No. 06-181. Petitioners, New Beginning Ministries and Anglers for Christ Ministries, Inc. -- nonprofit organizations whose programming was produced by in-house volunteers with limited funding -- alleged that compliance would be an undue burden and would likely cause them to discontinue their programming.

The New Beginning and Anglers petitions were put on Public Notice, and an opposition was filed by a coalition of several deaf and hard-of-hearing advocacy groups. The Bureau considered the arguments of the opponents, but ruled in favor of the petitioners. Shortly, thereafter, the Bureau issued a number of letter orders granting undue burden exemption petitions filed by other similarly situated video programming owners.

On October 12, 2006, several advocacy groups for the deaf and hard of hearing filed an application for Commission review of the Bureau *Order* and letter orders. The advocacy groups requested that all the petitions for relief from the closed captioning rules based on undue burden be placed on public notice. On November 7, 2006, the Commission released a Public Notice (PN) noting the application for review and seeking comments on all undue burden petitions not previously put on public notice. The PN states that the *Order* and letters orders granted by the Bureau will be held in abeyance until the comment cycle on the additional applications noticed is closed. The *Order* and letter orders will be reviewed by the Commission.

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List ABCDE

Ms. Teresa Adkins

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We have placed a copy of your correspondence in the public record for this proceeding, CG Docket No. 06-181. We appreciate your inquiry. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have further questions.

Sincerely,



Jay Keithley
Deputy Bureau Chief
Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau

cc: Shelley Moore Capito



OCT 2006 RCVD

SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO
2ND DISTRICT, WEST VIRGINIA

COMMITTEE ON RULES

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-4802

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202-225-2711

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304-925-5964

300 FOXCROFT AVE.
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WWW.HOUSE.GOV/CAPITO

October 20, 2006

Diane Atkinson
Congressional Liaison Specialist
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, SW, Room 8-C445
Washington, DC 20554

CB
Close Caption
2395

Dear Ms. Atkinson,

Recently, a constituent of mine, Ms. Teresa Adkins, contacted my office with concerns regarding closed captioning options. After reading her correspondence, I took the liberty of forwarding his information and a copy of the letter to you so it may be handled more directly.

Thank you for your time and effort. Please direct your response to the Ms. Adkins at 247 2nd Avenue Ripley, WV 25271. If you have any questions, please feel free to call my office at 202-225-2711.

Sincerely,

Shelley Moore Capito
Member of Congress

SMC:VKG

From: "Write your representative" <writerep@heoc-www6.house.gov>
Date: 9/25/2006 11:03:05 AM
To: wv02wyr@housemail.house.gov
Subject: WriteRep Responses

DATE: September 25, 2006 10:50 AM
NAME: Teresa Adkins
ADDR1: 247 2nd Ave
ADDR2:
ADDR3:
CITY: Ripley
STATE: West Virginia
ZIP: 25271-1521
PHONE:
EMAIL: dreamfire75@verizon.net

msg:
September 25, 2006
The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
United States House of Representatives
1431 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-

Dear Representative Capito,

I protest the FCC approval of almost 300 requests for new programs to be shown without closed captions.

The FCC weakened the closed captioning rules, and appears to have created new standards and new rules for permitting programs to be televised without closed captions. I believe the FCC violated the closed captioning rules.

People who are deaf or hard of hearing want access to televised information and entertainment, just like everyone else.

Closed captioning is an essential part of any televised program. Captioning is not too difficult or too expensive.

I cannot watch television programs that are not captioned.

Please reconsider these FCC decisions and support closed captioning.

Sincerely,

Teresa Adkins
247 2nd Ave
Ripley, WV 25271-1521