

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion regarding the FCC's proposed changes to public radio.

With music being an important and popular form of expression for all ages and cultures, Christian radio has been especially important to me and members of my family. It is not just a song with a beat, but a reinforcement of who we are and a way to express what we believe. Just as other forms of music speak to different generations that allow them to relate to life in their own way, Christian radio provides that for us.

I believe that it is imperative that the provisions of these proposals be considered carefully. The financial implications can and will do harm to many quality Christian stations on the air today. If these stations lose the ability to continue to provide for the needs of their listeners a tremendous gap will be left open.

1. No one body of individuals have the right to give advice across the board to the wide variety of peoples that radio affects. It is impossible to carry out decisions without imposing their own belief systems consciously or not on others. These impositions quickly eave a watered down version and deemphasize the importance of Christian radio on the public as a whole.

2. Reporting to a board of a select few on how the programs are delivered, to whom it is delivered, and researching how it affects their interests leaves too wide of a gap for someone else's interpretation of how it should be addressed. Let our capitalism that has stood the test of time speak for itself. If the radio stations, including Christian radio are able to maintain their listeners, and those listeners are willing to support their airtime, then they are reaching the interests of those in their market area. Bending to meet the needs of uninterested party's of a board that are not involved with the day to day operations would not be meeting the needs of the areas listeners.

3. One thing we as Americans can be proud of is our right to free speech. By censoring or insisting on certain messages to be allowed on the airwaves of specific stations would be taking away the right for that station to speak freely and deliver their own messages. It serves only the purpose of those that feel they need to force or control what is said taking away that very right of free speech.

4. The renewal of a radio station to remain on air is important in continuing the quality of what is provided to listeners. Changing that renewal process to include compliance with newly added conditions that put pressure on stations to play messages not conducive to their own programming is unconstitutional. These strict adherence policies serve to satisfy the personal desires of a select few and allow loopholes for acceptance or denial of renewal based upon the individual boards.

Please consider the necessity and actual need of these newly proposed changes and how they will

affect the many radio stations, including Christian radio, and their ability to comply and continue to provide the excellent programming that they do within their financial means.

Thank you again for the opportunity to respond to the proposed changes.

Lori Smith