

MB 07-57

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THE DUMA CONGRESS STUDY GROUP

**Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515**

**CORRINE BROWN**  
3D DISTRICT, FLORIDA

November 9, 2007

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The Honorable Kevin Martin, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

FILED/ACCEPTED

JUL 30 2008

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

*Handwritten signatures and initials:*  
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H/S  
PV  
KM  
ZC

Dear Chairman Martin:

Last week I, along with several of my colleagues, wrote to inform you that we support the consolidated transfer applications of XM Satellite Radio Holdings Inc. ("XM") and Sirius Satellite Radio Inc. ("Sirius"). In that letter, we stated that the merger would allow the companies to offer "more unique and diverse programming" by better utilizing capacity.

However, it has just recently come to my attention that Georgetown Partners, a minority-owned private equity firm, has presented a proposal to both the FCC and the Department of Justice that specifically addresses the issue of diverse programming. It has also been endorsed by several leading organizations committed to our nation's minority population.

Under the structure proposed by Georgetown Partners, a minority controlled entity would lease sufficient broadcast infrastructure and at least 20 % channel capacity on a long term or permanent basis from the merged company, as a pre-condition of the merger. Such a structure would assure the public, and specifically our minority population, of competing diverse program service consisting of 50-100 channels in the satellite radio marketplace. The fact that Georgetown Partners' proposal provides free over-the-air ad-supported programming as its primary offering gives our minority community a choice and is particularly appealing to me. I wholeheartedly support this proposal.

By allowing a minority-controlled entity to be the lessee, the Commission would serve the public interest by achieving diversity of ownership in this large medium as well as enhanced minority media ownership in general-two areas that the Commission has been asked to address by advocacy groups from various cross sections of our society.

I strongly urge you and you and your fellow Commissioners to give due diligence and review to Georgetown Partners' proposal as you consider the pending consolidated transfer applications of XM and Sirius.

Sincerely,

*Handwritten signature of Corrine Brown*

Corrine Brown  
Member of Congress

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