



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

July 23, 2014

The Honorable Bobby Rush
U.S. House of Representatives
2268 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Rush:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the Black Television News Channel's ("BTNC") waiver request. Your views will be taken into consideration, and your letter will be entered into the record for this proceeding.

As you are aware, Congress has imposed certain requirements on Direct Broadcast Satellite (DBS) carriers, including the requirement to reserve a percentage of channel capacity for noncommercial educational or informational programming. Commission rules currently require four percent of a DBS carrier's channel capacity to be reserved exclusively for noncommercial programming of an educational or informational nature.

As you note, BTNC recently filed a request for a three-year waiver from this requirement. On May 15, 2014, the Media Bureau released a Public Notice requesting comments on BTNC's waiver request. The comment periods have closed, and the Media Bureau has started its review of the record.

I hope this information is helpful, and I appreciate your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tom Wheeler", written over a horizontal line.

Tom Wheeler



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WASHINGTON

July 23, 2014

The Honorable Corrine Brown
U.S. House of Representatives
2111 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Brown:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the Black Television News Channel's ("BTNC") waiver request. Your views will be taken into consideration, and your letter will be entered into the record for this proceeding.

As you are aware, Congress has imposed certain requirements on Direct Broadcast Satellite (DBS) carriers, including the requirement to reserve a percentage of channel capacity for noncommercial educational or informational programming. Commission rules currently require four percent of a DBS carrier's channel capacity to be reserved exclusively for noncommercial programming of an educational or informational nature.

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July 23, 2014

The Honorable Gwen Moore
U.S. House of Representatives
2245 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Moore:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the Black Television News Channel's ("BTNC") waiver request. Your views will be taken into consideration, and your letter will be entered into the record for this proceeding.

As you are aware, Congress has imposed certain requirements on Direct Broadcast Satellite (DBS) carriers, including the requirement to reserve a percentage of channel capacity for noncommercial educational or informational programming. Commission rules currently require four percent of a DBS carrier's channel capacity to be reserved exclusively for noncommercial programming of an educational or informational nature.

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Tom Wheeler



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July 23, 2014

The Honorable Frederica Wilson
U.S. House of Representatives
208 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Wilson:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the Black Television News Channel's ("BTNC") waiver request. Your views will be taken into consideration, and your letter will be entered into the record for this proceeding.

As you are aware, Congress has imposed certain requirements on Direct Broadcast Satellite (DBS) carriers, including the requirement to reserve a percentage of channel capacity for noncommercial educational or informational programming. Commission rules currently require four percent of a DBS carrier's channel capacity to be reserved exclusively for noncommercial programming of an educational or informational nature.

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