

**Media Contact:**

Janice Wise, (202) 418-8165  
janice.wise@fcc.gov

**For Immediate Release**

**FCC PROPOSES TO ELIMINATE BROADCAST MID-TERM  
REPORT FILING REQUIREMENT**

*Proposal Would Reduce Regulatory Burdens for Broadcasters*

WASHINGTON, February 22, 2018—The Federal Communications Commission today proposed to eliminate a broadcast filing requirement and instead rely on publicly available information in its periodic reviews of broadcaster employment practices. Currently, the Broadcast Mid-Term Report (Form 397) requires certain television and radio stations to submit information to the FCC about their Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) practices which they largely already provide in their FCC-maintained online public files.

The information is used to conduct the statutorily-required review of the broadcast stations' employment practices at the mid-point of their eight-year license term. Because most of the information collected in Form 397 is now otherwise available to the Commission and the public via the online public file, the Commission has tentatively concluded that the requirement to file Form 397 is outdated and unnecessary for the Commission to conduct its mid-term EEO reviews.

This is the fifth rulemaking stemming from the *Modernization of Media Regulation Initiative* that the FCC launched in May 2017 to reduce unnecessary regulation that can stand in the way of competition and innovation in media markets.

Action by the Commission February 22, 2018 by Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FCC 18-20). Chairman Pai, Commissioners Clyburn, O'Rielly, Carr and Rosenworcel approving and issuing separate statements.

MB Docket Nos. 18-23; 17-105

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*This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir 1974).*