Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of

Implementation of Sections 716 and 717 of the Communications Act of 1934, as Enacted by the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010

Amendments to the Commission’s Rules Implementing Sections 255 and 251(a)(2) of the Communications Act of 1934, as Enacted by the Telecommunications Act of 1996

Accessible Mobile Phone Options for People who are Blind, Deaf-Blind, or Have Low Vision

CG Docket No. 10-213
WT Docket No. 96-198
CG Docket No. 10-145

ORDER

Adopted: April 4, 2011 Released: April 4, 2011

By the Associate Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau:

1. This Order extends the deadlines for filing comments and reply comments concerning the Commission’s Notice of Proposed Rulemaking proposing to adopt rules that implement provisions in Section 104 of the “Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010” (hereinafter referred to as the “CVAA”). Comments are now due on April 25, 2011, and reply comments are due on May 23, 2011.

2. On April 1, 2011, the American Foundation for the Blind, Consumer Electronics Association, Information Technology Industry Council, and Telecommunications Industry Association filed a request with Joel Gurin, Chief of the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau, and Ruth Milkman, Chief of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, for a thirty day extension of the time period to file comments in this rulemaking. The parties stated that the extension was needed to ensure that stakeholders have adequate time to fully and carefully analyze the Commission’s proposed rules and develop comprehensive recommendations. Comments and reply comments were due on April 13, and May 13, 2011, respectively.


2 Letter from Paul W. Schroeder, American Foundation for the Blind, Julie Kearney, Consumer Electronics Association, John Neuffer, Information Technology Industry Council, and Danielle Coffey, Telecommunications Industry Association, to Joel Gurin, Chief, Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau, and Ruth Milkman, Wireless (continued....)
3. Congress mandated that the Commission promulgate regulations as necessary to implement Section 104 of the CVAA within one year of the legislation’s date of enactment – October 8, 2011.\(^4\) Given this deadline, a thirty day extension is not feasible. In light of the number and complexity of the issues in this proceeding, however, we will grant ten-day extensions of the comment and reply comment deadlines.

4. It is the policy of the Commission that extensions of time are not routinely granted.\(^5\) In the instant case, however, we find that providing a limited extension will serve the public interest by allowing parties to discuss the complex issues at stake and develop consensus approaches where possible. Accordingly, we are extending the deadline for all comments and reply comments to April 25, and May 23, 2011, respectively.

5. IT IS ORDERED that, pursuant to section 4(i) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 154(i), and section 1.46 of the Commission’s rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.46, the joint request of the American Foundation for the Blind, Consumer Electronics Association, Information Technology Industry Council, and Telecommunications Industry Association, filed on April 1, 2011, is GRANTED TO THE EXTENT DESCRIBED HEREIN, and the deadline for filing comments in response to the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is EXTENDED to April 25, 2011, and the deadline for filing reply comments to May 23, 2011.

6. This action is taken under delegated authority pursuant to Sections 0.131 and 0.331 of the Commission’s Rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.131, 0.331.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Jane Jackson
Associate Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau

\(^3\) See supra note 1.
\(^5\) See 47 C.F.R. § 1.46(a).