

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

In the Matter of)
)
Implementation of the Twenty-First Century)
Communications and Video Accessibility Act of) CG Docket No. 10-210
2010, Section 105, Relay Services for Deaf-Blind)
Individuals)

ORDER

Extended Comment Date: September 5, 2014
Extended Reply Comment Date: September 19, 2014

Adopted: August 20, 2014 Released: August 20, 2014

By the Acting Chief, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau:

1. On August 1, 2014, the Bureau released a Public Notice establishing a pleading cycle for comments and reply comments in the above referenced proceeding related to the establishment of a permanent National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program (NDBEDP).¹ The Public Notice directed commenters to submit comments by August 22, 2014, and reply comments by September 5, 2014. On August 19, 2014, the National Federation of the Blind (NFB) filed a request to extend these comment and reply comment deadlines by 14 days each, respectively.² NFB states that additional time is needed due to the unique communication barriers experienced by individuals who are deaf-blind.³ Specifically, NFB says that it needs more time to conduct outreach, collect comprehensive feedback, and provide members of NFB’s deaf-blind division with ample opportunity to submit comments as individuals.⁴ We grant the requested extension of time.

2. As set forth in Section 1.46 of the Commission’s rules, it is the policy of the Commission that extensions of time shall not be routinely granted.⁵ Nonetheless, we find that granting an extension of the comment and reply comment periods in this instance will serve the public interest by allowing as much opportunity as possible for interested stakeholders, particularly individuals who are deaf-blind, to provide input into the preparation of a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for the development of proposed rules to continue the NDBEDP after the pilot program ends on June 30, 2015.

3. Accordingly, **IT IS ORDERED** that, pursuant to Section 4(i) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 154(i), and Sections 0.141, 0.361, and 1.46 of the Commission’s rules,

¹ *Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau Seeks Comment on the National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program*, Public Notice, CG Docket No. 10-210, DA 14-1128 (rel. Aug. 1, 2014). The NDBEDP supports programs that distribute equipment used for telecommunications, Internet access, and advanced communications to low-income individuals who are deaf-blind.

² See National Federation of the Blind, Motion for Extension of Time at 2 (filed Aug. 19, 2014), available at <http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/view?id=7521773528>.

³ *Id.* at 1.

⁴ *Id.* at 1-2.

⁵ 47 C.F.R. § 1.46(a).

47 C.F.R. §§ 0.141, 0.361, and 1.46, the Motion for Extension of Time filed by the National Federation of the Blind **IS GRANTED**, the deadline to file comments in this proceeding is extended to September 5, 2014, and the deadline to file reply comments in this proceeding is extended to September 19, 2014.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Kris Anne Monteith
Acting Chief
Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau