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PRESS STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER GLORIA TRISTANI REGARDING EEO RULES

On January 20, 2000, the FCC adopted EEO rules that directed broadcasters to select one of two broad options for distributing information about job openings to potential minority applicants. The options contained in the FCC's EEO regulations were quite modest but would have ensured that minorities would be afforded an equal opportunity to apply for jobs in the broadcast industry.

On January 16, 2001, the D.C. Court of Appeals struck down the FCC's EEO rules, and on June 19, 2001, a divided court denied a petition to rehear that case.

Earlier today, the Solicitor General, on behalf of the FCC, requested that the Supreme Court grant an extension of time to file a petition for a writ of certiorari seeking review of the D.C. Circuit's decision. I would respectfully urge my colleagues at the FCC to support the filing of such a petition with the Supreme Court. I hope today's filing is an indication that they are moving in that direction.

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