

**Remarks of Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate  
To National Religious Broadcasters Annual Convention  
March 10, 2008**

Good Morning. Thank you all for having me. I am so pleased to welcome the NRB to my hometown of Nashville, TN. NRB is an outstanding organization--highly respected in Washington, DC. I am told that you all are particularly active within the NRB in helping to communicate its vital voice in our Nation's Capitol. There could not be a more important time for broadcasters to have such critical representation. Thank you for your work.

I want briefly to encourage you to partner with me in advancing a goal I have held throughout my personal and professional career—the promotion of family-friendly programming. Thank you for everything you are already doing to provide an alternative to the ever-growing levels of violence and indecency we see on television and hear on the radio. You all are truly a safe haven for parents and children. According to a report by Kaiser Family Foundation, “American children and adolescents spend 22 to 28 hours per week viewing television, more than any other activity except sleeping. By the age of 70 they will have spent 7 to 10 years of their lives watching TV.” I continue to urge the broadcast community to seize those 22-28 hours per week that they have our children’s eyes and ears, and use the time to educate and inform—and provide wholesome, positive entertainment. NRB is the gold standard when it comes to positive, wholesome, family-friendly

programming. Thank you for all that you do and I challenge you to prepare for the new challenges that await us as content goes mobile!

Another development that I thought might be of interest to you: The FCC has initiated a pilot funding program to facilitate the creation of a nationwide broadband network dedicated to health care, connecting public and private non-profit health care providers in rural and urban locations. The vision of this program is to deploy the underlying broadband infrastructure to connect healthcare facilities across the nation. The networks will reach over 6,000 healthcare centers and connect doctors in states with a shortage of healthcare professionals. This is one more example of how the FCC is touching the lives of Americans all across the country each and every day.

I never miss an opportunity to ask those of you in the media industry to partner with me in promoting the DTV Transition, which will take place on February 17, 2009. The FCC, NTIA, Congress, and state, local and tribal leaders are expending an enormous amount of time and energy to achieve a seamless transition. By educating your viewers and listeners, and directing them to our website, [www.dtv.gov](http://www.dtv.gov), you can be part of what is truly the greatest technological television innovation since the advent of color tv.

As a Commissioner, I depend on input from broadcasters like those who are members of NRB. Please know that my door is always open to you. Your more

than 1400 Evangelical Broadcast Organizations are making a difference on both the local and national level bringing the message of faith and family that I find so reassuring. Thank you for having me here with you. I look forward to having a chance to talk with some of you today and throughout the evening.