

CHARLES B. RANGEL
15TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
NEW YORK

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JOINT COMMITTEE
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CHIEF OF STAFF

JAMES E. CAPEL
DISTRICT DIRECTOR

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

July 15, 2010

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Retransmission
PV
JG

1226

The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

Cable operators and broadcasters in New York are engaged in complex negotiations to renew existing retransmission consent agreements, some of which are scheduled to expire this summer.

If these agreements are not renewed, programming for many New Yorkers could be dramatically affected. It is not fair to punish consumers for the failure of these companies to reach an agreement, which is why we urge you to take whatever steps are necessary to protect consumers from losing any programming as a result of these negotiations.

The Federal Communications Commission is the expert agency on matters pertaining to broadcast television and, under current law, you have the jurisdiction to review the existing regulatory regime. As such, I urge you to direct a process to review the retransmission consent regime. I am certainly not prejudging any outcome, but I believe that the public would be best served with your review rather than Congress rewriting the law.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this issue. If we may be of assistance, please feel free to contact our offices.

To find out more that I am doing in Washington and in the District please review my website at www.rangel.house.gov

Sincerely,

Charles B. Rangel
CHARLES B. RANGEL
Member of Congress

CBR:jrs

26 JUL 2010 RCUD

WASHINGTON OFFICE
2354 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3215
TELEPHONE: (202) 225-4365
FAX: (202) 225-0816

PLEASE RESPOND TO OFFICE CHECKED

DISTRICT OFFICE
163 WEST 125TH STREET
NEW YORK, NY 10027
TELEPHONE: (212) 663-3900
FAX: (212) 663-4277