Congressional Hispanic Caucus United States Congress

Washington, DC 20515

CHAIRMAN
CHARLES A. GONZALEZ
20th District, Texas

July 27, 2011



Hon. Julius Genachowski Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re:

Entravision Communications Commission

Station WJAL(TV) Hagerstown, Maryland

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

On behalf of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, we write to encourage your consideration of the request by Entravision Holdings, LLC, to relocate their station WJAL from Hagerstown, MD, to Silver Spring, MD. As Hispanic populations grow across the country, the market for Spanish-language programming will continue to rise, and it is a proper use of the public airwaves to ensure that these listeners have adequate access to multiple broadcast sources of Spanish-language programming.

We are particularly aware of the challenges faced by many in America's most rapidly growing ethnic group. During the transition to DTV, Hispanic households were twice as likely as White households to be at risk of losing access to broadcast television. Today, one-third of Hispanic households rely on broadcast stations for their television, significantly more than the national average. This is one reason why it is so important that large Hispanic populations, like that in the Washington, DC, metropolitan region have access not only to multiple Spanish-language television stations but to multiple broadcast, Spanish-language stations.

By relocating WJAL from Hagerstown, which has a relatively small Spanish-speaking population, to Silver Spring, Entravision would greatly increase the population it serves and remove the Washington metropolitan area from its position as one of the few metropolitan areas in the country with a sizable Hispanic population but only one full-power station broadcasting Spanish-language television.

Hispanics now make up 12.7% of the population of the Washington metropolitan area, 9.1% of Washington, DC, 16.1% of Montgomery County, MD, 13.5% of Prince George's County, MD, and 17.1% of Arlington, VA. It makes sense that they should have a choice in Spanish-language

broadcast television and Entravision's proposal to move WJAL from Hagerstown to Silver Spring would give them that choice.

We join Senator Ben Cardin, Congressman Chris Van Hollen and many Latino groups in support of this move and urge you to give it the timely consideration it deserves.

Sincerely,

Charles A. Gonzalez

Chair

Congressional Hispanic Caucus

Rubén Hinojosa First Vice Chair

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Re: Entravision Request

Number of pages (including this cover sheet): 3

Message:

From: Congressional Hispanic

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