



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
CHAIRMAN

February 15, 2012

The Honorable Brian Higgins
U.S. House of Representatives
2459 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Higgins:

Thank you for your letter urging the Commission to reexamine the sports blackout rules. Your views are very important and I will ensure that your letter is included in the record of the relevant proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

The Commission received a Petition for Rulemaking on November 11, 2011, requesting elimination of the sports blackout rules. The Sports Fans Coalition, Inc., Public Knowledge, Media Access Project, National Consumer League, and the League of Fans assert in their petition that sports economics and the technological means of distributing games have rendered these rules obsolete. The Commission's Media Bureau released a Public Notice on January 12, 2012, requesting comment on the petition. The comment cycle closes February 28, and I look forward to receiving the Bureau's recommendation after it has reviewed the record.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Julius Genachowski", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Julius Genachowski