



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

August 22, 2013

Mignon L. Clyburn
Acting Chairwoman

The Honorable Richard Blumenthal
United States Senate
448 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Blumenthal:

Thank you for your letter urging the Commission to issue a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on the Sports Blackout Rule. Your views are very important and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

The Public Notice that the Commission's Media Bureau issued last year concerning the Sports Blackout Rule generated considerable public interest. The Bureau has completed its review of the record and is preparing its recommendation for the Commission. I look forward to reviewing the recommendation and considering what action, if any, to take next.

You might be aware that the NFL revised its blackout policy shortly after the period for submission of public comments in this proceeding closed. Under the new policy, NFL teams have the option of lifting blackouts in their local markets if 85 percent of game tickets have been sold. The NFL's new policy may result in fewer blackouts of sports programming.

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

Sincerely,


Mignon L. Clyburn



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

August 22, 2013

Mignon L. Clyburn
Acting Chairwoman

The Honorable John McCain
United States Senate
241 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator McCain:

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