

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

September 11, 2013

Mignon L. Clyburn
Acting Chairwoman

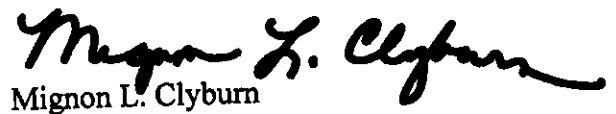
The Honorable Brian Higgins
U.S. House of Representatives
2459 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Higgins:

Thank you for your letter requesting that the Commission issue a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking regarding the Sports Blackout Rule. I appreciate your interest in this matter and am pleased to provide the enclosed letter on this issue from the Chief of the Media Bureau's Office of Communications and Industry Information.

If you have any additional questions or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


Mignon L. Clyburn

Enclosure



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

September 11, 2013

IN REPLY REFER TO:
CN-1300891

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 follow-up letter requesting that the Commission issue a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking concerning the Sports Blackout Rule. Your views are very important to the Commission and, as with your prior correspondence, your most recent letter will be included in the record of the proceeding.

The *Public Notice* that the Commission's Media Bureau issued last year regarding the Sports Blackout Rule generated considerable public interest. The Media Bureau has completed its evaluation of the record developed in the proceeding and is preparing a recommendation for the full Commission. Upon review of the Bureau's recommendation, the Commission will determine what action, if any, to take next.

As you may know, after the period for the submission of public comments in the Sports Blackout proceeding closed, the NFL revised its Sports Blackout policy. 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 new policy may result in fewer blackouts of NFL games.

The Commission appreciates your interest in this matter, and please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael S. Perko". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "P" at the end.

Michael S. Perko
Chief, Office of Communications and Industry Information
Media Bureau