



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

March 19, 2014

The Honorable Mark Pryor
Chairman
Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, and the Internet
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
United States Senate
512 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Pryor:

Thank you for your letter urging Commission reconsideration of its decision to exempt video clips from the IP closed captioning rules implemented under the Twenty-first Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010 (CVAA).

Per its earlier commitment, the Commission's Media Bureau released a Public Notice on December 13, 2013, seeking additional information that will help inform the Commission on the state of closed captioning of IP-delivered video clips. The Notice asks a series of questions, including several related to closed captioning of IP-delivered news clips. The attendant comment cycle for the Notice closed on March 5, 2014. I look forward to seeing the results of this inquiry and considering whether additional Commission action is warranted to ensure video programming access.

The Commission is committed to fulfilling our obligation to ensure that our rules provide people who rely on captions with full video programming access, in accordance with Congressional intent. At the February Commission meeting, the Commission adopted standards to ensure high closed captioning quality, so that all Americans, especially those with hearing or other disabilities, have the same access to news, public affairs, sports and entertainment on television programming as everyone else. FCC action in this area is long overdue and continued progress on these issues will remain high on my agenda.

I appreciate and am heartened by your interest in this matter. We have included your letter in the record of the proceeding. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Wheeler".

Tom Wheeler



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March 19, 2014

The Honorable Edward Markey
United States Senate
218 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Markey:

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