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March 28, 2014

The Honorable Tom Wheeler, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20054

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Dear Chairman Wheeler:

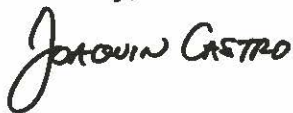
The FCC has indicated it plans to vote during its March 2014 meeting, on proposed rule changes concerning how joint sales agreements (JSAs) are used to calculate television station ownership. While I express no final conclusion herein with respect to the merits of such proposed changes, I believe a prudent course would be for the FCC to refrain from enacting rule changes at its March meeting -- pending consideration of the issue in the context of either a larger FCC ownership proceeding, or legislative action.

The relative merits and public interest effects of JSAs have been the subject of intense debate in recent weeks, before the FCC, and Congress. While there are viewpoints on both sides of the issue, there is some evidence that JSAs may enable some stations to stay in business, provide programming, promote diversity, and sustain jobs. I also note some views, that imminent FCC action on JSAs could hurt diversity of broadcast ownership and programming.

Sinclair Broadcast Groups helps operate JSA for local KYMS which would struggle to provide service without resources available via the JSA. KMYS is a true grass roots station that provides news updates, local public affairs programming, extensive coverage of local high school and college sports as well as coverage of local community events from parades to pro basketball games. Additionally, they provide an affordable alternative to network and cable advertising for local business along with significant public service announcements that include the importance of education, drug awareness, drunk driving and a wide variety of issues that are important to the city of San Antonio and its residents.

I ask for your consideration to postpone the reported March vote on a JSA item to ensure the integrity of the deliberation process, and to best protect consumers, competition, and diversity of broadcast ownership and programming.

Sincerely,



Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress