



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE
CHAIRWOMAN

November 1, 2022

The Honorable David Cicilline
U.S. House of Representatives
2233 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Cicilline:

Thank you for your letter regarding the retransmission consent dispute between Nexstar Media Group and Verizon that prevented your constituents from receiving programming from WPRI. I was pleased to hear that the parties came to an agreement to restore access to the station for Verizon's customers.

The Federal Communications Commission requires that parties negotiate in good faith regarding retransmission consent for the carriage of the broadcast signals on a multichannel video program distributor's system. This is specifically required under Section 325 of the Communications Act. However, neither Nexstar nor Verizon filed a complaint with the Commission alleging that there was a violation of the law or our rules governing good faith negotiation. Moreover, it is important to understand that the Commission's authority in this area is limited, as under Section 325 we cannot order or otherwise require carriage of a broadcast station during a dispute. Nonetheless, I would welcome the opportunity to work with you and others in Congress on these matters so that consumers can be better protected in the future when disputes like these arise.

I hope this is helpful. Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jessica Rosenworcel".

Jessica Rosenworcel



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE
CHAIRWOMAN

November 1, 2022

The Honorable Jim Langevin
U.S. House of Representatives
2077 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Langevin:

Thank you for your letter regarding the retransmission consent dispute between Nexstar Media Group and Verizon that prevented your constituents from receiving programming from WPRI. I was pleased to hear that the parties came to an agreement to restore access to the station for Verizon's customers.

The Federal Communications Commission requires that parties negotiate in good faith regarding retransmission consent for the carriage of the broadcast signals on a multichannel video program distributor's system. This is specifically required under Section 325 of the Communications Act. However, neither Nexstar nor Verizon filed a complaint with the Commission alleging that there was a violation of the law or our rules governing good faith negotiation. Moreover, it is important to understand that the Commission's authority in this area is limited, as under Section 325 we cannot order or otherwise require carriage of a broadcast station during a dispute. Nonetheless, I would welcome the opportunity to work with you and others in Congress on these matters so that consumers can be better protected in the future when disputes like these arise.

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November 1, 2022

The Honorable Jack Reed
United States Senate
728 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Reed:

Thank you for your letter regarding the retransmission consent dispute between Nexstar Media Group and Verizon that prevented your constituents from receiving programming from WPRI. I was pleased to hear that the parties came to an agreement to restore access to the station for Verizon's customers.

The Federal Communications Commission requires that parties negotiate in good faith regarding retransmission consent for the carriage of the broadcast signals on a multichannel video program distributor's system. This is specifically required under Section 325 of the Communications Act. However, neither Nexstar nor Verizon filed a complaint with the Commission alleging that there was a violation of the law or our rules governing good faith negotiation. Moreover, it is important to understand that the Commission's authority in this area is limited, as under Section 325 we cannot order or otherwise require carriage of a broadcast station during a dispute. Nonetheless, I would welcome the opportunity to work with you and others in Congress on these matters so that consumers can be better protected in the future when disputes like these arise.

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Jessica Rosenworcel



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WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE
CHAIRWOMAN

November 1, 2022

The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senate
530 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Whitehouse:

Thank you for your letter regarding the retransmission consent dispute between Nexstar Media Group and Verizon that prevented your constituents from receiving programming from WPRI. I was pleased to hear that the parties came to an agreement to restore access to the station for Verizon's customers.

The Federal Communications Commission requires that parties negotiate in good faith regarding retransmission consent for the carriage of the broadcast signals on a multichannel video program distributor's system. This is specifically required under Section 325 of the Communications Act. However, neither Nexstar nor Verizon filed a complaint with the Commission alleging that there was a violation of the law or our rules governing good faith negotiation. Moreover, it is important to understand that the Commission's authority in this area is limited, as under Section 325 we cannot order or otherwise require carriage of a broadcast station during a dispute. Nonetheless, I would welcome the opportunity to work with you and others in Congress on these matters so that consumers can be better protected in the future when disputes like these arise.

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