December 12, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chair  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street NE  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chair Rosenworcel,

We write to urge the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to finish its work to reinstate the collection of broadcast workforce diversity data. The FCC is required by law to collect this information, and without it, the Commission and Congress are deprived of a key tool to assess the makeup of the media workforce. In 2021, after nearly 20 years, the FCC took the important step of soliciting comment on how to recommence this important data collection using Form 395-B. It is now time for the Commission to follow through, and set forth rules for broadcasters to submit workforce diversity data on an annual basis, as Congress intended.

As Congresswoman Clarke and Commissioner Starks expressed earlier this week, representation matters. Congress and the Commission have charged broadcasters with providing programming that is responsive to the needs and interests of their community of license. It is simple – a station is best placed to do so when its employees reflect the diversity of that community.

When Congress codified the Form 395-B collection, our hope was that this data would provide valuable insights regarding diversity in broadcasting. The importance of these objectives has only increased in the intervening years. We urge you to act swiftly to put Form 395-B back into use.

Sincerely,

Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress

Delia C. Ramirez  
Member of Congress

Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress

Kevin Mullin  
Member of Congress
André Carson  
Member of Congress

James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress

Dan Goldman  
Member of Congress

Paul D. Tonko  
Member of Congress

Darren Soto  
Member of Congress

Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress

Frederica S. Wilson  
Member of Congress

Jim Costa  
Member of Congress

Marc A. Veasey  
Member of Congress

Raul Ruiz, M.D.  
Member of Congress
Al Green
Member of Congress
Ranking Member, Subcommittee
on Oversight and Investigations

Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress

Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.
Member of Congress

Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress

Joe Crow
Member of Congress

Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator

Troy A. Carter, Sr.
Member of Congress

Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress

Tony Cárdenas
Member of Congress

Steven Horsford
Member of Congress
Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress

Ben Ray Luján
United States Senator

Raphael Warnock
United States Senator

CC:
The Honorable Brendan Carr
Commissioner

The Honorable Geoffrey Starks
Commissioner

The Honorable Nathan Simington
Commissioner

The Honorable Anna M. Gomez
Commissioner