

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

December 12, 2023

1126

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



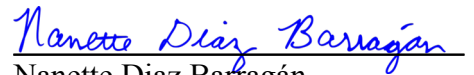
Dan Goldman
Member of Congress



Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress



Darren Soto
Member of Congress



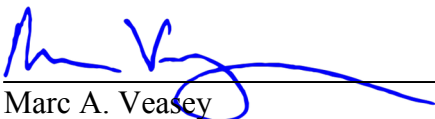
Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress



Jim Costa
Member of Congress



Marc A. Veasey
Member of Congress



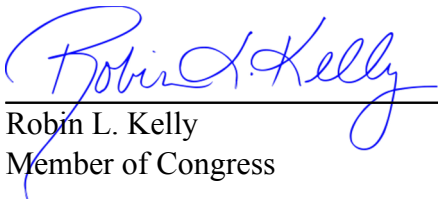
Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress



Al Green
Member of Congress
Ranking Member, Subcommittee
on Oversight and Investigations



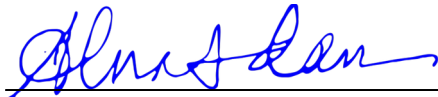
Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator



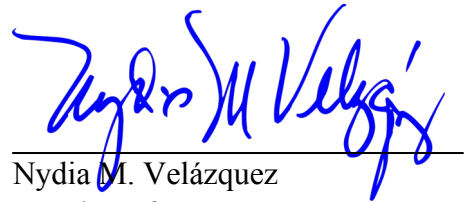
Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress



Troy A. Carter, Sr.
Member of Congress



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



Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress



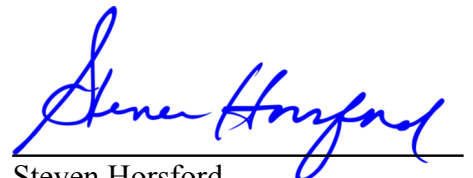
Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



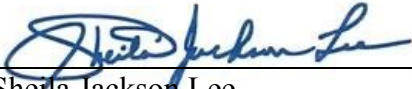
Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress



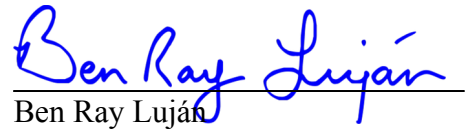
Tony Cardenas
Member of Congress



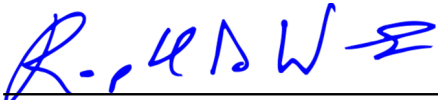
Steven Horsford
Member of Congress



Sheria 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