

Important Announcement To All Cable TV Subscribers

DUE TO CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND OUR CONTROL, MANY PROGRAMS NORMALLY SEEN TONIGHT WILL NOT BE SHOWN

This may soon become a frequent announcement . . . just before your screen goes 'black' on many of your favorite programs usually seen on your favorite channels. NO, IT WON'T REALLY HAPPEN TONIGHT . . . BUT IT CAN HAPPEN . . . VERY SOON . . . UNLESS YOU DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT NOW!

Your freedom to choose the television channel YOU WANT at the hour YOU WANT for the program YOU WANT may soon not be your right at all. Your choice will be controlled by the Federal Communications Commission in Washington, D.C. This is how your cable TV reception will be affected in Eugene & Springfield:



KATU
Channel 2
Portland
CABLE 2
ABC



KOIN
Channel 6
Portland
CABLE 6
CBS



KOAC
Channel 7
Corvallis
CABLE 7
ETV



KGW
Channel 8
Portland
CABLE 8
NBC



KEZI
Channel 9
Eugene
CABLE 5
ABC/CBS

On April 23, 1965 the FCC adopted stringent rules affecting CATV systems which are served by microwave. Henceforth, these systems must not duplicate the programs of "local stations" at the time they are shown by the local station and for 15 days before and after such showing. Furthermore, these systems must receive on the cable all the "local stations." "Local stations" are all those within whose Grade A and Grade B contours a CATV system operates. The net effect is to black out several channels on the sets of CATV subscribers. There has been no persuasive evidence that CATV systems injure television stations of any kind.

At the same time the FCC instituted a rulemaking proceeding designed to affect all CATV systems, even though they do not make use of microwave. The FCC stated that it was convinced that it has authority to regulate all CATV systems, even though it informed the Congress for several sessions that it would not have such authority. The Commission stated that at the end of the last congressional session (1965) it felt free to put its proposed rules with respect to all CATV systems into effect. In other words, the FCC gave the Congress an ultimatum, in effect, stating that if the Congress did not act to give it this authority within the remaining seven months of the session, the FCC would assume jurisdiction anyhow over all CATV systems.

In short, the FCC rules would give the federal agency power to regulate your television reception . . . something unheard of before in this country . . . an idea completely foreign to the American system of free enterprise broadcasting. In effect, the FCC would severely limit your freedom to select the channel of your choice for your family's television entertainment.

A congressional resolution is urgently needed to compel the FCC to submit proposed legislation to the Congress so that the Congress may decide the communications policy for the future rather than the FCC usurping such a right. If you want to protect your rights as an American citizen . . . if you want to safeguard your freedom of choice . . . if you oppose unwarranted government intervention in your family's TV viewing habits . . . THERE IS SOMETHING YOU CAN DO:

Members of the Federal Communications Commission are not elected to office. BUT they are answerable to Congress. Write your Congressman TODAY. Let him know that you are against the FCC's proposed rules which will regulate and limit cable television reception. Let him know you are against a federal agency taking upon itself powers not given to it by the Congress of the United States. Address your letter to:

Hon. Robert B. Duncan
United States House of Representatives
Washington 25, D. C. 20515



For further information, write or call—
342-1845 **298 W. BROADWAY**



KPTV
Channel 12
Portland
CABLE 4
IND.



KVAL
Channel 13
Eugene
CABLE 3
NBC

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY OF CATV

The FCC and the broadcasters, in the 1959-1960 session of Congress, indicated that Congress should give to the TV broadcaster the power to deny to a CATV operator permission to carry its signal. The Senate Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce turned this proposal down because it would have given to broadcasters the power to decide whether a CATV existed or not. The Senate rejected on May 18, 1960 a bill that would have given the FCC authority to regulate CATV. The FCC requested authority over CATV systems from the Congress in 1961-1962 and 1963-1964 sessions by recommending bills to that effect which were introduced. The Congress took no action on these bills.

Now the FCC has proposed to let the local broadcaster determine the future of CATV systems by making rigid restrictions applicable to CATV unless the local broadcaster relieves the CATV system of the burden of adhering to the rules in whole or in part by private agreement. This is the very antithesis of the national policy with respect to private enterprise which is embodied in the Federal antitrust laws.