§ 303.73 Applications to use the courts of the United States to enforce court orders.

The IV–D agency may apply to the Secretary for permission to use a United States district court to enforce a support order of a court of competent jurisdiction against an absent parent who is present in another State if the IV–D agency can furnish evidence in accordance with instructions issued by the office.

§ 303.100 [Amended]

17. In section 303.100, reference to ''October 1, 1995'' in paragraph (g)(3) is revised to read ''October 1, 1997.''

18–19. Section 303.105 is amended by revising the section heading and paragraphs (b) and (c) and adding new paragraph (f) to read as follows:

§ 303.105 Procedures for periodic reporting of information to consumer reporting agencies.

* * * * *

(b) For cases in which the amount of overdue support exceeds $1,000 and is at least two months in arrears, the IV–D agency must have in effect procedures to periodically report the name of the absent parent and the amount of arrears to consumer reporting agencies.

(c) The information shall not be made available to a consumer reporting agency which:

(1) the State determines does not have sufficient capability to make use of the information in a systematic and timely manner; or

(2) has not furnished satisfactory evidence to the State that it is a consumer reporting agency.

* * * * *

(f) *Interstate.* For cases where an initiating State requests, in accordance with § 303.7(b), a responding State to enforce a support order, the responding State will report to consumer reporting agencies in accordance with this section. The initiating State will not report.

PART 304—FEDERAL FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION

20. The authority citation for Part 304 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 651 through 655, 657, 1302, 1396a(a)(25), 1396b(d)(2), 1396b(o), 1396(p), and 1396(k).

§ 304.10 [Amended]

21. In section 304.10, the parenthetical phrase ''(with the exception of Subpart G, Matching and Cost Sharing and Subpart I, Financial Reporting Requirements)'' is revised to read ''(with the exception of 45 CFR 74.23, Cost Sharing or Matching and 45 CFR 74.52, Financial Reporting).''

§ 304.20 [Amended]

22. In section 304.20, paragraph (b)(1)(iii) introductory text is amended by replacing ''Subpart P'' with ''in accordance with the Procurement Standards found in 45 CFR 74.40 et seq.'', paragraph (b)(1)(vi) is amended by revising the reference to ''§ 302.16'' to read ''§ 304.15'', paragraph (b)(3)(iv) is amended by revising the term ''attachment'' to read ''withholding;'', paragraph (b)(8) is amended by revising the reference ''§ 302.2'' to read ''§ 303.2'' and, paragraph (b)(11) is amended by revising ''Part 306, Subpart B, of this chapter'' to read ''sections 303.30 and 303.31''.

§ 304.95 [Removed]

23. Section 304.95 is removed.

PART 306—OPTIONAL COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS FOR MEDICAL SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT—[REMOVED AND RESERVED]

24. Part 306 is removed and reserved.

PART 307—COMPUTERIZED SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT SYSTEMS

25. The authority citation for part 307 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 652 through 658, 664, 666, 667, and 1302.

§ 307.5 [Amended]

26. In section 307.5, reference to ''October 1, 1995'' in paragraph (a) is revised to read ''October 1, 1997.''

§ 307.15 [Amended]

27. In section 307.15, reference to ''October 1, 1995'' in paragraph (b)(2) is revised to read ''October 1, 1997.''

[FR Doc. 96–1254 Filed 1–26–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4150–04–P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Parts 73 and 76

[MM Docket No. 95–176, DA 96–53]

Television Services; Cable Television Services; Closed Captioning and Video Description of Video Programming

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice of Inquiry; extension of comment and reply comment period.

SUMMARY: This action extends the deadline for filing comments and reply comments to the Notice of Inquiry in the above-cited docket. It is taken in response to requests to extend the comment and reply comment period made by the National Association of Broadcasters, the Association of Independent Stations, Inc., Capital Cities/ABC, Inc., CBS Inc., Fox Broadcasting, and NBC, Inc., and by The National Association of the Deaf. The intended effect of this action is to allow the parties to the proceeding to have additional time in which to file comments and reply comments.

DATES: Comments are due on or before February 28, 1996, and reply comments are due on or before March 15, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C. 20554.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Somers (202–418–2130) or Charles Logan (202–418–2130), Mass Media Bureau.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a synopsis of the Order Granting Extension of the Time for Filing Comments in MM Docket No. 95–176, DA 96–53, adopted January 22, 1996 and released January 22, 1996. The complete text of this *Order* is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center (Room 239), 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., and also may be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, International Transcription Service, (202) 857–3800, 2100 M Street NW., Suite 140, Washington, DC 20037.

Synopsis of Order Granting Extension of Time for Filing Comments

1. On December 1, 1995, the Commission adopted a *Notice of Inquiry* in MM Docket No. 95–176 (NOI), FCC–95–484, 60 FR 65052 (December 18, 1995), seeking comment on a wide variety of issues relating to closed captioning and video description services. Comments were initially due to be filed by January 29, 1996, and reply comments by February 14, 1996.

2. On January 16, 1996, a Motion to Extend the Comment Period was filed by the National Association of Broadcasters, the Association of Independent Television Stations, Inc., Capital Cities/ABC, Inc., CBS Inc., Fox Broadcasting Company, and the National Broadcasting Company, Inc. (collectively referred to as ''Broadcasters''). Broadcasters point out that both the House and Senate have passed versions of telecommunications legislation that would require the Commission to adopt new rules requiring closed captioning of most television programming. *See* NOI at ¶¶ 7–8, 25–31. They claim that the information the Commission will need to gather will vary significantly depending on whether any such

legislation is enacted. They argue that ''the resources of both Broadcasters and the Commission would be poorly used in preparing and considering comments raised in the [NOI] when a second set of comments would almost certainly have to be sought on similar issues if Congress adopts the captioning legislation.'' Accordingly, Broadcasters request the Commission to extend the filing date for comments in this proceeding until 30 days after the date of enactment of the Telecommunications Act of 1995, or—if Congress fails to adopt a bill—until a further order of the Commission.[1]

3. On January 17, 1996, The National Association of the Deaf (NAD) requested that the Commission extend the due date for filing comments and reply comments in this proceeding by 30 days. In support of its request, NAD argues that the occurrence of certain events make meeting the existing deadlines extremely difficult, if not impossible. First, NAD notes that Gallaudet University announced the closing of the National Center for Law and Deafness (Law Center), effective January 19, 1996. The Law Center, which NAD states has played a key role in coordinating and preparing comments on Commission proceedings affecting telecommunications and television access, was given only seven weeks notice of its closing date after being in operation for twenty years. NAD claims that because the time allotted for shutting down the Law Center and transferring its operations was so short, the Law Center had little or no time to begin to address the matters raised in the NOI. NAD states that it will be assuming the role formerly filled by the Law Center in addressing telecommunications matters raised by the Commission. Second, NAD notes that the severe winter snow storm that struck the Northeast forced closure of many private and governmental offices for approximately the entire week of January 8–12, 1996, impeding NAD's ability to gather the information needed for a proper response to the NOI. Finally, the partial closure of the Federal government resulted in a furlough of employees at several governmental agencies, including the Department of Education, which may have relevant information to file in connection with this proceeding.[2]

4. We decline to grant Broadcasters' request for an indefinite extension pending developments on the pending telecommunications reform legislation. While we understand that further comments may ultimately be necessary, we believe that submission of the information sought by the NOI will provide a useful foundation for further Commission action whether or not that legislation is enacted. The Commission will be able to expedite the implementation of any legislation that becomes law and accelerate completion of any further proceedings the Commission may be required by the legislation to conduct on both closed captioning and video description. Further, the comments submitted should provide us with information that would be useful in preparing any Notice of Proposed Rule Making that might be necessary to implement the legislation. If the legislation is not enacted, the record in this proceeding will enable the Commission to ''assess the possibility of adopting regulatory requirements in this area under its existing statutory authority.'' NOI at ¶ 26.

5. With regard to NAD's request for an extension, we are mindful that Section 1.46 of the Commission's Rules, 47 CFR § 1.46, articulates a Commission policy that extensions of time for filing comments in rulemaking proceedings are not to be routinely granted. Nevertheless, we find that good cause exists for granting a short extension of the comment and reply comment deadlines. We take note of the following factors which, viewed in their totality, we believe warrant grant of a 30-day extension: (1) the abrupt closing of the Law Center at Gallaudet University, and the need for its successor organization, NAD, to gather comprehensive information on short notice; (2) the unusually severe winter storms, which have recently stalled mail deliveries, disrupted transit, and forced many workplaces to close for up to a week, and have therefore complicated efforts to prepare comments, particularly for those parties whose comments required coordination among multiple entities or persons; and (3) the partial federal government closure, which has made it difficult for parties to gather from agencies relevant information regarding closed captioning and video description services.

6. Accordingly, it is ordered, that the request filed by the National Association of the Deaf for an extension of time in which to file comments and reply comments in response to the *Notice of Inquiry* in MM Docket No. 95–176 IS GRANTED to the extent indicated herein. It is further ordered that the request of the National Association of Broadcasters, *et al.*, for an extension contingent on the passage of the pending telecommunications legislation is denied.

7. It is further ordered, that the time for filing comments in the above-captioned proceeding is extended to February 28, 1996, and the time for filing reply comments is extended to March 15, 1996.

8. This action is taken pursuant to authority found in Sections 4(i) and 303(r) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §§ 154(i) and 303(r), and Sections 0.204(b), 0.283 and 1.45 of the Commission's Rules, 47 CFR §§ 0.204(b), 0.283 and 1.45.

Federal Communications Commission.

Renee Licht,

Deputy Chief, Policy Mass Media Bureau.

[FR Doc. 96–1498 Filed 1–26–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712–01–P

[1] Broadcasters request in the alternative that the Commission extend the comment deadlines by 30 days.

[2] NAD also supports its request with the argument that ''many individuals were out of town or otherwise unavailable'' during the Christmas holidays. We do not believe that this fact provides any justification for an extension of the comment period.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 301

[Docket No. 960111003–6003–01; I.D. 121895B]

RIN 0648–AI48

Pacific Halibut Fisheries; Catch Sharing Plan

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Proposed rule and proposed catch sharing plan.

SUMMARY: NMFS proposes to approve and implement revisions to the Catch Sharing Plan (Plan) for harvests of Pacific halibut off Washington, Oregon, and California under authority of the Northern Pacific Halibut Act of 1982 (Halibut Act). This action is necessary to revise the Plan to address the needs of fisheries in varying geographical areas. Proposed changes to the Plan would affect sport fisheries and the incidental catch of halibut in the salmon troll fishery. NMFS also proposes sport fishery regulations to implement the Plan in 1996. The proposed rule is intended to carry out the objectives of the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) and the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council).