

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 217

Expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the authority of the Federal Communications Commission.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 11, 1998

Mr. TAUZIN (for himself, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. LIVINGSTON, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. KLUG, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. DEAL of Georgia, Mr. PAXON, Mrs. CUBIN, Mr. HASTERT, Mr. OXLEY, Mr. BURR of North Carolina, and Mr. ROGAN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the authority of the Federal Communications Commission.

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that—

3 (1) the Congress has never granted the Federal
4 Communications Commission the authority to com-
5 pel broadcast station licensees to provide free broad-
6 cast time for the airing of political advertising, other
7 than the specific equal time obligations of section
8 315 of the Communications Act of 1934;

1 (2) section 315 of that Act contains specific
2 and reasonable limits on the compensation that may
3 be required of political candidates for the airing of
4 political advertising that the Congress enacted as the
5 exclusive authority of the Commission with respect
6 to compensation for political advertising;

7 (3) the Commission may not further expand the
8 public interest obligations of broadcast station li-
9 censees to accept political advertising without ex-
10 press statutory authority from the Congress, and the
11 responsible weighing of the legal and economic prob-
12 lems that congressional consideration entails; and

13 (4) the Federal Communications Commission
14 should not engage in actions that would congest the
15 Federal courts with needless litigation concerning
16 the limits on the Commission's authority, wasting
17 the congressionally appropriated resources of the
18 Commission, the Department of Justice, and the ju-
19 dicial branch.

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