108TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION H.R. 3027

To require the Federal Communications Commission to report to Congress regarding the ownership and control of broadcast stations used to serve language minorities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

September 5, 2003

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. CONYERS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

- To require the Federal Communications Commission to report to Congress regarding the ownership and control of broadcast stations used to serve language minorities, and for other purposes.
 - 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
 - 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

4 This Act may be cited as the "National Minority5 Media Opportunities Act".

6 SEC. 2. BROADCAST OWNERSHIP.

7 (a) REVIEW OF LICENSE TRANSFER.—Section
8 211(b) of the Telecommunications Authorization Act of

1992 (Public Law 102–538; 106 Stat. 3545) is amended 1 by adding at the end the following: "Subsection (a) also 2 3 applies to any person holding a broadcast license used pri-4 marily to serve a language minority. The hearing required 5 by subsection (a) shall include record evidence, analysis, and Commission findings regarding the effects of the ap-6 7 plication on competition and diversity in the programming 8 and distribution markets for the specific language minor-9 ity at issue. For purposes of this subsection, the term 'lan-10 guage minority' means persons who are American Indian, Asian American, Alaskan Natives, or of Spanish herit-11 12 age.".

(b) BROADCAST STATIONS SERVING LANGUAGE MI14 NORITIES.—Section 202 of the Telecommunications Act of
15 1996 (Public Law 104–104; 110 Stat. 111) is amended
16 by adding at the end the following:

17 "(i) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than January 1, 2004, the Commission shall, after notice and comment, 18 report to Congress regarding the ownership and control 19 of broadcast stations (including AM, FM, and television 20 21 broadcast stations) used to serve language minorities. The 22 Commission shall consider the effects, with respect to both 23 competition and diversity concerns, of multiple ownership 24 and undue concentration in the programming and dis-25 tribution markets specific to a language minority. For

- 1 purposes of this subsection, the term 'language minority'
- 2 means persons who are American Indian, Asian American,
- 3 Alaskan Natives, or of Spanish heritage.".