

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1789

To eliminate the discount for UHF television stations for purposes of the limitation on the aggregate national audience reach of television broadcast stations in which a party may have a cognizable interest.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 14, 2019

Mr. HUFFMAN (for himself and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To eliminate the discount for UHF television stations for purposes of the limitation on the aggregate national audience reach of television broadcast stations in which a party may have a cognizable interest.

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 “Local and Independent
5 Television Protection Act of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. ELIMINATION OF UHF DISCOUNT.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the
8 date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Commu-

1 nications Commission shall amend section 73.3555(e) of
2 title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, such that, for pur-
3 poses of the aggregate national audience reach limitation
4 under such section, a UHF television station is attributed
5 with 100 percent of the television households in the des-
6 ignated market area of such station.

7 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Except as provided in sub-
8 section (c), the Commission shall provide that—

9 (1) the amendment required by subsection (a)
10 shall apply beginning on a date specified by the
11 Commission, which shall be not later than 90 days
12 after the day on which the Commission adopts such
13 amendment; and

14 (2) any party that exceeds the limitation under
15 section 73.3555(e) of title 47, Code of Federal Reg-
16 ulations—

17 (A) through the grant, transfer, or assign-
18 ment of an additional license on or after the
19 date specified by the Commission under para-
20 graph (1) shall come into compliance with such
21 limitation as required by section 73.3555(e)(3)
22 of such title; or

23 (B) solely by reason of applying such
24 amendment (and not through the grant, trans-
25 fer, or assignment of an additional license) shall

1 come into compliance with such limitation not
2 later than 2 years after the date specified by
3 the Commission under paragraph (1).

4 (c) GRANDFATHERING.—In the case of television
5 broadcast stations in which a party had a cognizable inter-
6 est as of September 26, 2013 (or would have had such
7 an interest following the completion of a transfer or as-
8 signment of a license that was approved by the Commis-
9 sion on or before such date or for which an application
10 was pending with the Commission on such date), if the
11 aggregate national audience reach of such stations would
12 exceed the limitation under section 73.3555(e) of title 47,
13 Code of Federal Regulations, solely by reason of applying
14 the amendment required by subsection (a) as of such date,
15 such amendment shall not apply to such party with respect
16 to such stations.

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