1990. The legislation itself does not require any prescribed number of hours or specific types of programming. Its champions in both the House and Senate explained that the criterion should be ''a station's overall service to children'' and that a broadcaster should have the ''greatest possible flexibility in how it discharges its public service obligation to children.'' In so framing the Children's Television Act, its sponsors wisely sought to insulate both the act itself and the regulatory power of the FCC from legal challenges.

For as the courts have repeatedly found, public-interest requirements relating to specific program content create a high risk that such rulings would reflect the FCC's tastes, opinions and value judgments—rather than a neutral public interest. Such requirements must be closely scrutinized, lest they carry the commission too far in the direction of censorship. As the Supreme Court recently concluded, ''The Commission may not impose upon licensees its private notions of what the public ought to hear.''

The draft programming guideline rules ignore Congress's deliberate decision to allow stations flexibility and thereby avoid constitutional challenges. Instead, the draft rules virtually invite such a challenge.

What's going on here? A most worthy goal, children's educational and informational programming, is being cleverly manipulated to revive outdated and discarded ''scarcity'' theories of broadcast regulation. Scarcity justified regulation many years ago, when broadcast TV was the only show in town and a few stations were the only source of video programs.

Today, however, there is a superabundance of over-the-air broadcast outlets. Cable, with its 135 networks, reaches 98 percent of all television homes. Satellite services have grown rapidly, and VCRs are now in 83 percent of all American homes. To top it off, computers and the Internet are becoming an outlet of choice for our children's time and energy.

With this incredible menu of program choices, claims of marketplace failure are outdated and farcical. The main legislative and regulatory thrust today must be toward competition and deregulation, not program content regulation and First Amendment intrusion. Thus, it is increasingly difficult, logically and legally, to justify additional regulation of broadcasting, the only medium providing universal free service.

What to do? First, this controversial draft FCC order should be released right away in its entirety for public comment. Let's fully inform everyone of its contents.

WAKE-UP CALL

This is an unusual step, but this issue is deteriorating into an unusually misguided proceeding. If this draft order were made public, I can't imagine anyone with any sensitivity to the First Amendment supporting it, since it calls for unprecedented government micromanagement of the nation's leading news and information medium. If adopted, these rules would set a precedent that could shackle broadcasting with the prospect of even more extensive content and structural regulation in the future. Public disclosure would serve as a nationwide wake-up call to what is potentially at stake for all communications media.

Many congressmen have, in good faith, signed a letter generally supporting three hours of children's programming. I cannot believe these congressmen would support the adoption of overly rigid rules that threaten to undermine the judicial sustainability of the act itself. A three-hour-per-week guideline for children's educational programming makes sense and is universally supported. But it must be flexible enough to allow broadcasters to do their job—and flexible enough to avoided censorship.

At the risk of violence to the first Amendment, we will not be doing children or their parents any favors by rushing ahead with an overregulatory exercise in micromanagement. Both President Clinton and leaders in Congress have declared that ''the era of big government is over.'' Is that true for everyone but the FCC?

REMEMBERING THE ISRAELI OLYMPIC ATHLETES

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 1996

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to remember the 11 Israeli Olympic athletes and coaches who were victims of terrorism on September 6, 1972, during the Olympic games in Munich, Germany.

On Sunday, July 28, 1996, the Atlanta Jewish Federation along with the Olympic Committee of Israel will host a memorial service honoring the Olympic competitors who were killed by terrorists in 1972. During this occasion, a sculpture with an eternal flame, the Olympic rings, and the names of the victims will be unveiled as a reminder of the tragedy and loss suffered on that dreadful day 24 years ago.

We remember again today the families and friends of these athletes and coaches who suffered such a terrible loss at the hands of ruthless terrorists.

HONORING THOSE WHO BATTLE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

HON. JON D. FOX

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 1996

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, Pennsylvania's 13th District is home to many weapons in the battle against domestic violence. On the front lines we have a Montgomery County Victims Services Center, Laurel House, the Montgomery County Womens' Center, and the Montgomery County Commission on Women and Families.

I rise today to compliment another one of these weapons, and to recognize the men and women who make it work.

In 1978, Upper Moreland, PA Police Lt. Carl Robinson conceived the idea of establishing a corps of trained mental health professionals who would accompany police to the sites of domestic violence police calls. Years later, Ms. Bonnie Dalzell, who founded the counseling center at St. Luke's in Glenside, PA, visited police stations in the Upper Moreland area to acquaint police organizations with the mental health services she could provide.

This conversation developed into the Support Police Immediate Response Intervention Team, a nonprofit organization serving the communities of Upper Moreland, Abington, and Jenkintown, PA.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, much of a policeman's work is crisis intervention. Not only has the presence of mental health volunteers freed police to do the police work in cases of domestic violence, it has gone a long way towards safely resolving domestic conflicts.

Domestic violence is one of the greatest enemies of our Nation's families. I have the utmost respect and admiration for the caring people who do their best to help our country's families through domestic crises. This is why, both as a State legislator, and again last year as a Member of the 104th Congress, I introduced legislation supporting community response teams such as the one in Upper Moreland.

I am proud to rise today in recognition and support of compassionate men and women like Ms. Judy Dwyer, who is a responder in the Upper Moreland program of which I rise in appreciation.

I cannot say it enough. Our children and families are under attack. In Pennsylvania's 13th District, local solutions are making the difference, thanks to the vision and ability of people like Lieutenant Robinson, Ms. Dalzell, and Ms. Dwyer.

PROTECTING SOCIAL SECURITY: CONGRESS CANNOT AFFORD TO WAIT

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 1996

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, in 1983, Congress and President Reagan formed the bipartisan Greenspan Commission which agreed on historic legislation to save Social Security. At that time, the Social Security Administration actuaries warned that the system had an unfunded liability equal to 1.82 percent of taxable payroll. The 1983 law was supposed to solve this problem through the middle of the next century. However, the actuaries now find that the unfunded liability is 2.19 percent of taxable payroll, 20 percent worse than in 1983.

Expressed in 1996 dollars, this liability equals approximately $4 trillion. Put another way, under the current system every beneficiary for the next 75 years will have to absorb a 14 percent cut from baseline benefits for the system to balance. Alternatively, payroll taxes will have to go up by 16 percent to restore long-term solvency. The actuaries say even larger benefit cuts or tax increases will be needed the longer Congress delays.

Traditionally, Congress waits until the last moment to solve such problems, using a crisis environment to convince our constituents and ourselves that sacrifices have to be made. But this approach is unconscionable when waiting until the last minute will force us to adopt a solution that will damage the economy and the lives of vulnerable workers and retirees. Under current law, there will only be two workers paying into the system for each retiree drawing benefits early in the next century. There were 42 workers for every retiree when Social Security was started. On May 15, former Social Security Commissioner Dorcas Hardy estimated Social Security could have insufficient funds as early as 2005. Without meaningful reform soon, very large benefit reductions or tax rate hikes are unavoidable. Fortunately, I believe we can legislate a happy ending.

The Social Security Administration has scored my bill, the Social Security Solvency Act, and found that if everyone participates each worker could invest between 1.81 percent and 10.11 percent of his paycheck in a