

Calendar No. 93

106<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> Session

**H. R. 1554**

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**AN ACT**

To amend the provisions of title 17, United States Code, and the Communications Act of 1934, relating to copyright licensing and carriage of broadcast signals by satellite.

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APRIL 28, 1999

Received; read twice and placed on the calendar

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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**AN ACT**

To amend the provisions of title 17, United States Code, and the Communications Act of 1934, relating to copyright licensing and carriage of broadcast signals by satellite.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Satellite Copyright,  
3 Competition, and Consumer Protection Act of 1999”.

4 **TITLE I—SATELLITE COMPETI-**  
5 **TION AND CONSUMER PRO-**  
6 **TECTION**

7 **SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE.**

8 This title may be cited as the “Satellite Competition  
9 and Consumer Protection Act”.

10 **SEC. 102. RETRANSMISSION CONSENT.**

11 Section 325(b) of the Communications Act of 1934  
12 (47 U.S.C. 325(b)) is amended—

13 (1) by amending paragraphs (1) and (2) to  
14 read as follows:

15 “(b)(1) No cable system or other multichannel video  
16 programming distributor shall retransmit the signal of a  
17 television broadcast station, or any part thereof, except—

18 “(A) with the express authority of the origi-  
19 nating station;

20 “(B) pursuant to section 614, in the case of a  
21 station electing, in accordance with this subsection,  
22 to assert the right to carriage under such section; or

23 “(C) pursuant to section 338, in the case of a  
24 station electing, in accordance with this subsection,  
25 to assert the right to carriage under such section.

1 “(2) The provisions of this subsection shall not  
2 apply—

3 “(A) to retransmission of the signal of a non-  
4 commercial television broadcast station;

5 “(B) to retransmission of the signal of a tele-  
6 vision broadcast station outside the station’s local  
7 market by a satellite carrier directly to its sub-  
8 scribers, if—

9 “(i) such station was a superstation on  
10 May 1, 1991;

11 “(ii) as of July 1, 1998, such station was  
12 retransmitted by a satellite carrier under the  
13 statutory license of section 119 of title 17,  
14 United States Code; and

15 “(iii) the satellite carrier complies with all  
16 network nonduplication, syndicated exclusivity,  
17 and sports blackout rules adopted by the Com-  
18 mission pursuant to section 712 of this Act;

19 “(C) until 7 months after the date of enactment  
20 of the Satellite Competition and Consumer Protec-  
21 tion Act, to retransmission of the signal of a tele-  
22 vision network station directly to a satellite antenna,  
23 if the subscriber receiving the signal is located in an  
24 area outside the local market of such station; or

1           “(D) to retransmission by a cable operator or  
2 other multichannel video provider, other than a sat-  
3 ellite carrier, of the signal of a television broadcast  
4 station outside the station’s local market if such sig-  
5 nal was obtained from a satellite carrier and—

6           “(i) the originating station was a supersta-  
7 tion on May 1, 1991; and

8           “(ii) as of July 1, 1998, such station was  
9 retransmitted by a satellite carrier under the  
10 statutory license of section 119 of title 17,  
11 United States Code.”;

12           (2) by adding at the end of paragraph (3) the  
13 following new subparagraph:

14           “(C) Within 45 days after the date of enactment of  
15 the Satellite Competition and Consumer Protection Act,  
16 the Commission shall commence a rulemaking proceeding  
17 to revise the regulations governing the exercise by tele-  
18 vision broadcast stations of the right to grant retrans-  
19 mission consent under this subsection, and such other reg-  
20 ulations as are necessary to administer the limitations  
21 contained in paragraph (2). The Commission shall com-  
22 plete all actions necessary to prescribe such regulations  
23 within one year after such date of enactment. Such regula-  
24 tions shall—

1           “(i) establish election time periods that cor-  
2           respond with those regulations adopted under sub-  
3           paragraph (B) of this paragraph; and

4           “(ii) until January 1, 2006, prohibit television  
5           broadcast stations that provide retransmission con-  
6           sent from engaging in discriminatory practices, un-  
7           derstandings, arrangements, and activities, including  
8           exclusive contracts for carriage, that prevent a mul-  
9           tichannel video programming distributor from ob-  
10          taining retransmission consent from such stations.”;

11          (3) in paragraph (4), by adding at the end the  
12          following new sentence: “If an originating television  
13          station elects under paragraph (3)(C) to exercise its  
14          right to grant retransmission consent under this  
15          subsection with respect to a satellite carrier, the pro-  
16          visions of section 338 shall not apply to the carriage  
17          of the signal of such station by such satellite car-  
18          rier.”;

19          (4) in paragraph (5), by striking “614 or 615”  
20          and inserting “338, 614, or 615”; and

21          (5) by adding at the end the following new  
22          paragraph:

23          “(7) For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘tele-  
24          vision broadcast station’ means an over-the-air commercial  
25          or noncommercial television broadcast station licensed by

1 the Commission under subpart E of part 73 of title 47,  
2 Code of Federal Regulations, except that such term does  
3 not include a low-power or translator television station.”.

4 **SEC. 103. MUST-CARRY FOR SATELLITE CARRIERS RE-**  
5 **TRANSMITTING TELEVISION BROADCAST SIG-**  
6 **NALS.**

7 Title III of the Communications Act of 1934 is  
8 amended by inserting after section 337 (47 U.S.C. 337)  
9 the following new section:

10 **“SEC. 338. CARRIAGE OF LOCAL TELEVISION SIGNALS BY**  
11 **SATELLITE CARRIERS.**

12 “(a) CARRIAGE OBLIGATIONS.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the limitations  
14 of paragraph (2), each satellite carrier providing sec-  
15 ondary transmissions to subscribers located within  
16 the local market of a television broadcast station of  
17 a primary transmission made by that station shall  
18 carry upon request all television broadcast stations  
19 located within that local market, subject to section  
20 325(b), by retransmitting the signal or signals of  
21 such stations that are identified by Commission reg-  
22 ulations for purposes of this section.

23 “(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—No satellite carrier  
24 shall be required to carry local television broadcast  
25 stations under paragraph (1) until January 1, 2002.

1 “(b) GOOD SIGNAL REQUIRED.—

2 “(1) COSTS.—A television broadcast station as-  
3 serting its right to carriage under subsection (a)  
4 shall be required to bear the costs associated with  
5 delivering a good quality signal to the designated  
6 local receive facility of the satellite carrier or to an-  
7 other facility that is acceptable to at least one-half  
8 the stations asserting the right to carriage in the  
9 local market.

10 “(2) REGULATIONS.—The regulations issued  
11 under subsection (g) shall set forth the obligations  
12 necessary to carry out this subsection.

13 “(c) DUPLICATION NOT REQUIRED.—

14 “(1) COMMERCIAL STATIONS.—Notwithstanding  
15 subsection (a), a satellite carrier shall not be re-  
16 quired to carry upon request the signal of any local  
17 commercial television broadcast station that substan-  
18 tially duplicates the signal of another local commer-  
19 cial television broadcast station which is secondarily  
20 transmitted by the satellite carrier within the same  
21 local market, or to carry upon request the signals of  
22 more than 1 local commercial television broadcast  
23 station in a single local market that is affiliated with  
24 a particular television network.



1           “(2) NONCOMMERCIAL STATIONS.—The Com-  
2           mission shall prescribe regulations limiting the car-  
3           riage requirements under subsection (a) of satellite  
4           carriers with respect to the carriage of multiple local  
5           noncommercial television broadcast stations. To the  
6           extent possible, such regulations shall provide the  
7           same degree of carriage by satellite carriers of such  
8           multiple stations as is provided by cable systems  
9           under section 615.

10          “(d) CHANNEL POSITIONING.—No satellite carrier  
11         shall be required to provide the signal of a local television  
12         broadcast station to subscribers in that station’s local  
13         market on any particular channel number or to provide  
14         the signals in any particular order, except that the satellite  
15         carrier shall retransmit the signal of the local television  
16         broadcast stations to subscribers in the stations’ local  
17         market on contiguous channels and provide access to such  
18         station’s signals at a nondiscriminatory price and in a  
19         nondiscriminatory manner on any navigational device, on-  
20         screen program guide, or menu.

21          “(e) COMPENSATION FOR CARRIAGE.—A satellite  
22         carrier shall not accept or request monetary payment or  
23         other valuable consideration in exchange either for car-  
24         riage of local television broadcast stations in fulfillment  
25         of the requirements of this section or for channel posi-

1 tioning rights provided to such stations under this section,  
2 except that any such station may be required to bear the  
3 costs associated with delivering a good quality signal to  
4 the local receive facility of the satellite carrier.

5 “(f) REMEDIES.—

6 “(1) COMPLAINTS BY BROADCAST STATIONS.—

7 Whenever a local television broadcast station believes  
8 that a satellite carrier has failed to meet its obliga-  
9 tions under this section, such station shall notify the  
10 carrier, in writing, of the alleged failure and identify  
11 its reasons for believing that the satellite carrier is  
12 obligated to carry upon request the signal of such  
13 station or has otherwise failed to comply with other  
14 requirements of this section. The satellite carrier  
15 shall, within 30 days of such written notification, re-  
16 spond in writing to such notification and either  
17 begin carrying the signal of such station in accord-  
18 ance with the terms requested or state its reasons  
19 for believing that it is not obligated to carry such  
20 signal or is in compliance with other requirements of  
21 this section, as the case may be. A local television  
22 broadcast station that is denied carriage in accord-  
23 ance with this section by a satellite carrier or is oth-  
24 erwise harmed by a response by a satellite carrier  
25 that it is in compliance with other requirements of

1 this section may obtain review of such denial or re-  
2 sponse by filing a complaint with the Commission.  
3 Such complaint shall allege the manner in which  
4 such satellite carrier has failed to meet its obliga-  
5 tions and the basis for such allegations.

6 “(2) OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND.—The Com-  
7 mission shall afford the satellite carrier against  
8 which a complaint is filed under paragraph (1) an  
9 opportunity to present data and arguments to estab-  
10 lish that there has been no failure to meet its obliga-  
11 tions under this section.

12 “(3) REMEDIAL ACTIONS; DISMISSAL.—Within  
13 120 days after the date a complaint is filed under  
14 paragraph (1), the Commission shall determine  
15 whether the satellite carrier has met its obligations  
16 under this chapter. If the Commission determines  
17 that the satellite carrier has failed to meet such obli-  
18 gations, the Commission shall order the satellite car-  
19 rier, in the case of an obligation to carry a station,  
20 to begin carriage of the station and to continue such  
21 carriage for at least 12 months, or, in the case of  
22 the failure to meet other obligations under this sec-  
23 tion, shall take other appropriate remedial action. If  
24 the Commission determines that the satellite carrier

1 has fully met the requirements of this chapter, the  
2 Commission shall dismiss the complaint.

3 “(g) REGULATIONS BY COMMISSION.—Within 180  
4 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Com-  
5 mission shall, following a rulemaking proceeding, issue  
6 regulations implementing this section.

7 “(h) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section:

8 “(1) SUBSCRIBER.—The term ‘subscriber’  
9 means a person that receives a secondary trans-  
10 mission service by means of a secondary trans-  
11 mission from a satellite and pays a fee for the serv-  
12 ice, directly or indirectly, to the satellite carrier or  
13 to a distributor.

14 “(2) DISTRIBUTOR.—The term ‘distributor’  
15 means an entity which contracts to distribute sec-  
16 ondary transmissions from a satellite carrier and, ei-  
17 ther as a single channel or in a package with other  
18 programming, provides the secondary transmission  
19 either directly to individual subscribers or indirectly  
20 through other program distribution entities.

21 “(3) LOCAL RECEIVE FACILITY.—The term  
22 ‘local receive facility’ means the reception point in  
23 each local market which a satellite carrier designates  
24 for delivery of the signal of the station for purposes  
25 of retransmission.

1           “(4) TELEVISION BROADCAST STATION.—The  
2 term ‘television broadcast station’ has the meaning  
3 given such term in section 325(b)(7).

4           “(5) SECONDARY TRANSMISSION.—The term  
5 ‘secondary transmission’ has the meaning given such  
6 term in section 119(d) of title 17, United States  
7 Code.”.

8 **SEC. 104. NONDUPLICATION OF PROGRAMMING BROAD-**  
9 **CAST BY LOCAL STATIONS.**

10         Section 712 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47  
11 U.S.C. 612) is amended to read as follows:

12 **“SEC. 712. NONDUPLICATION OF PROGRAMMING BROAD-**  
13 **CAST BY LOCAL STATIONS.**

14         “(a) EXTENSION OF NETWORK NONDUPLICATION,  
15 SYNDICATED EXCLUSIVITY, AND SPORTS BLACKOUT TO  
16 SATELLITE RETRANSMISSION.—Within 45 days after the  
17 date of enactment of the Satellite Competition and Con-  
18 sumer Protection Act, the Commission shall commence a  
19 single rulemaking proceeding to establish regulations that  
20 apply network nonduplication protection, syndicated exclu-  
21 sivity protection, and sports blackout protection to the re-  
22 transmission of broadcast signals by satellite carriers to  
23 subscribers. To the extent possible consistent with sub-  
24 section (b), such regulations shall provide the same degree  
25 of protection against retransmission of broadcast signals

1 as is provided by the network nonduplication (47 C.F.R.  
2 76.92), syndicated exclusivity (47 C.F.R. 151), and sports  
3 blackout (47 C.F.R. 76.67) rules applicable to cable tele-  
4 vision systems. The Commission shall complete all actions  
5 necessary to prescribe regulations required by this section  
6 so that the regulations shall become effective within 1 year  
7 after such date of enactment.

8 “(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF NETWORK NONDUPLICA-  
9 TION BOUNDARIES.—

10 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF SIGNAL STANDARD  
11 FOR NETWORK NONDUPLICATION REQUIRED.—The  
12 Commission shall establish a signal intensity stand-  
13 ard for purposes of determining the network non-  
14 duplication rights of local television broadcast sta-  
15 tions. Until revised pursuant to subsection (c), such  
16 standard shall be the Grade B field strength stand-  
17 ard prescribed by the Commission in section 73.683  
18 of the Commission’s regulations (47 C.F.R. 73.683).  
19 For purposes of this section, the standard estab-  
20 lished under this paragraph is referred to as the  
21 ‘Network Nonduplication Signal Standard’.

22 “(2) ESTABLISHMENT OF IMPROVED PRE-  
23 DICTIVE MODEL REQUIRED.—Within 180 days after  
24 the date of enactment of the Satellite Competition  
25 and Consumer Protection Act, the Commission shall

1 take all actions necessary, including any reconsideration,  
2 ation, to develop and prescribe by rule a point-to-  
3 point predictive model for reliably and presumptively  
4 determining the ability of individual locations to re-  
5 ceive signals in accordance with the Network Non-  
6 duplication Signal Standard. In prescribing such  
7 model, the Commission shall ensure that such model  
8 takes into account terrain, building structures, and  
9 other land cover variations. The Commission shall  
10 establish procedures for the continued refinement in  
11 the application of the model by the use of additional  
12 data as it becomes available. For purposes of this  
13 section, such model is referred to as the ‘Network  
14 Nonduplication Reception Model’, and the area en-  
15 compassing locations that are predicted to have the  
16 ability to receive such a signal of a particular broad-  
17 cast station is referred to as that station’s ‘Recep-  
18 tion Model Area’.

19 “(3) NETWORK NONDUPLICATION.—The net-  
20 work nonduplication regulations required under sub-  
21 section (a) shall allow a television network station to  
22 assert nonduplication rights as follows:

23 “(A) If a satellite carrier is retransmitting  
24 that station, or any other television broadcast  
25 stations located in the same local market, to

1 subscribers located in that station's local mar-  
2 ket, the television network station may assert  
3 nonduplication rights against the satellite car-  
4 rier throughout the area within which that sta-  
5 tion may assert such rights under the rules ap-  
6 plicable to cable television systems (47 C.F.R.  
7 76.92).

8 “(B) If a satellite carrier is not retransmit-  
9 ting any television broadcast stations located in  
10 the television network station's local market to  
11 subscribers located in such market, the tele-  
12 vision network station may assert nonduplica-  
13 tion rights against the satellite carrier in the  
14 geographic area that is within such station's  
15 Reception Model Area, but such geographic  
16 area shall not extend beyond the local market  
17 of such station.

18 “(4) WAIVERS.—A subscriber may request a  
19 waiver from network nonduplication by submitting a  
20 request, through such subscriber's satellite carrier,  
21 to the television network station asserting non-  
22 duplication rights. The television network station  
23 shall accept or reject a subscriber's request for a  
24 waiver within 30 days after receipt of the request.  
25 The network nonduplication protection described in



1 paragraph (3)(B) shall not apply to a subscriber if  
2 such station agrees to the waiver request and files  
3 with the satellite carrier a written waiver with re-  
4 spect to that subscriber allowing the subscriber to  
5 receive satellite retransmission of another network  
6 station affiliated with that same network. The tele-  
7 vision network station and the satellite carrier shall  
8 maintain a file available to the public that contains  
9 such waiver requests and the acceptances and rejec-  
10 tions thereof.

11 “(5) OBJECTIVE VERIFICATION.—

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—If a subscriber’s re-  
13 quest for a waiver under paragraph (4) is re-  
14 jected and the subscriber submits to the sub-  
15 scriber’s satellite carrier a request for a test  
16 verifying the subscriber’s inability to receive a  
17 signal that meets the Network Nonduplication  
18 Signal Standard, the satellite carrier and the  
19 television network station or stations asserting  
20 nonduplication rights with respect to that sub-  
21 scriber shall select a qualified and independent  
22 person to conduct a test in accordance with the  
23 provisions of section 73.686(d) of title 47, Code  
24 of Federal Regulations, or any successor regula-  
25 tion. Such test shall be conducted within 30

1 days after the date the subscriber submits a re-  
2 quest for the test. If the written findings and  
3 conclusions of a test conducted in accordance  
4 with the provisions of such section (or any suc-  
5 cessor regulation) demonstrate that the sub-  
6 scriber does not receive a signal that meets or  
7 exceeds the Network Nonduplication Signal  
8 Standard, the network nonduplication rights de-  
9 scribed in paragraph (3)(B) shall not apply to  
10 that subscriber.

11 “(B) DESIGNATION OF TESTOR AND ALLO-  
12 CATION OF COSTS.—If the satellite carrier and  
13 the television network station or stations assert-  
14 ing nonduplication rights are unable to agree on  
15 such a person to conduct the test, the person  
16 shall be designated by an independent and neu-  
17 tral entity designated by the Commission by  
18 rule. Unless the satellite carrier and the tele-  
19 vision network station or stations asserting non-  
20 duplication rights otherwise agree, the costs of  
21 conducting the test under this paragraph shall  
22 be borne equally by the satellite carrier and the  
23 television network station or stations asserting  
24 nonduplication rights. A subscriber may not be

1           required to bear any portion of the cost of such  
2           test.

3           “(6) RECREATIONAL VEHICLE LOCATION.—In  
4           the case of a subscriber to a satellite carrier who has  
5           installed satellite reception equipment in a rec-  
6           reational vehicle, and who has permitted any tele-  
7           vision network station seeking to assert network  
8           nonduplication rights to verify the motor vehicle reg-  
9           istration, license, and proof of ownership of such ve-  
10          hicle, the subscriber shall be considered to be outside  
11          the local market and Reception Model Area of such  
12          station. For purposes of this paragraph, the term  
13          ‘recreational vehicle’ does not include any residential  
14          manufactured home, as defined in section 603(6) of  
15          the National Manufactured Housing Construction  
16          and Safety Standards Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C.  
17          5402(6)).

18          “(c) REVIEW AND REVISION OF STANDARDS AND  
19 MODEL.—

20                 “(1) ONGOING INQUIRY REQUIRED.—Not later  
21                 than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Sat-  
22                 ellite Competition and Consumer Protection Act, the  
23                 Commission shall conduct an inquiry of the extent to  
24                 which the Network Nonduplication Signal Standard,  
25                 the Network Nonduplication Reception Model, and

1 the Reception Model Areas of television stations are  
2 adequate to reliably measure the ability of con-  
3 sumers to receive an acceptable over-the-air tele-  
4 vision broadcast signal.

5 “(2) DATA TO BE CONSIDERED.—In conducting  
6 the inquiry required by paragraph (1), the Commis-  
7 sion shall consider—

8 “(A) the number of subscribers requesting  
9 waivers under subsection (b)(4), and the num-  
10 ber of waivers that are denied;

11 “(B) the number of subscribers submitting  
12 petitions under subsection (b)(5), and the num-  
13 ber of such petitions that are granted;

14 “(C) the results of any consumer research  
15 study that may be undertaken to carry out the  
16 purposes of this section; and

17 “(D) the extent to which consumers are  
18 not legally entitled to install broadcast reception  
19 devices assumed in the Commission’s standard.

20 “(3) REPORT AND ACTION.—The Commission  
21 shall submit to the Congress a report on the inquiry  
22 required by this subsection not later than the end of  
23 the 2-year period described in paragraph (1). The  
24 Commission shall complete any actions necessary to  
25 revise the Network Nonduplication Signal Standard,

1 the Network Nonduplication Reception Model, and  
2 the Reception Model Areas of television stations in  
3 accordance with the findings of such inquiry not  
4 later than 6 months after the end of such 2-year pe-  
5 riod.

6 “(4) DATA SUBMISSION.—The Commission  
7 shall prescribe by rule the data required to be sub-  
8 mitted by television broadcast stations and by sat-  
9 ellite carriers to the Commission or such designated  
10 entity to carry out this subsection, and the format  
11 for submission of such data.”.

12 **SEC. 105. CONSENT OF MEMBERSHIP TO RETRANSMISSION**  
13 **OF PUBLIC BROADCASTING SERVICE SAT-**  
14 **ELLITE FEED.**

15 Section 396 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47  
16 U.S.C. 396) is amended by adding at the end the following  
17 new subsection:

18 “(n) The Public Broadcasting Service shall certify to  
19 the Board on an annual basis that a majority of its mem-  
20 bership supports or does not support the secondary trans-  
21 mission of the Public Broadcasting Service satellite feed,  
22 and provide notice to each satellite carrier carrying such  
23 feed of such certification.”.

1 **SEC. 106. DEFINITIONS.**

2 Section 3 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47  
3 U.S.C. 153) is amended—

4 (1) by redesignating—

5 (A) paragraphs (49) through (52) as para-  
6 graphs (52) through (55), respectively;

7 (B) paragraphs (39) through (48) as para-  
8 graphs (41) through (50), respectively; and

9 (C) paragraphs (27) through (38) as para-  
10 graph (28) through (39), respectively;

11 (2) by inserting after paragraph (26) the fol-  
12 lowing new paragraph:

13 “(27) LOCAL MARKET.—

14 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘local mar-  
15 ket’, in the case of both commercial and non-  
16 commercial television broadcast stations, means  
17 the designated market area in which a station  
18 is located, and—

19 “(i) in the case of a commercial tele-  
20 vision broadcast station, all commercial tel-  
21 evision broadcast stations licensed to a  
22 community within the same designated  
23 market area are within the same local mar-  
24 ket; and

25 “(ii) in the case of a noncommercial  
26 educational television broadcast station,

1           the market includes any station that is li-  
2           censed to a community within the same  
3           designated market area as the noncommer-  
4           cial educational television broadcast sta-  
5           tion.

6           “(B) COUNTY OF LICENSE.—In addition to  
7           the area described in subparagraph (A), a sta-  
8           tion’s local market includes the county in which  
9           the station’s community of license is located.

10           “(C) DESIGNATED MARKET AREA.—For  
11           purposes of subparagraph (A), the term ‘des-  
12           ignated market area’ means a designated mar-  
13           ket area, as determined by Nielsen Media Re-  
14           search and published in the DMA Market and  
15           Demographic Report.”;

16           (3) by inserting after paragraph (39) (as reded-  
17           signed by paragraph (1) of this section) the fol-  
18           lowing new paragraph:

19           “(40) SATELLITE CARRIER.—The term ‘sat-  
20           ellite carrier’ means an entity that uses the facilities  
21           of a satellite or satellite service licensed by the Com-  
22           mission, and operates in the Fixed-Satellite Service  
23           under part 25 of title 47 of the Code of Federal  
24           Regulations or the Direct Broadcast Satellite Service  
25           under part 100 of title 47 of the Code of Federal

1 Regulations, to establish and operate a channel of  
2 communications for point-to-multipoint distribution  
3 of television station signals, and that owns or leases  
4 a capacity or service on a satellite in order to pro-  
5 vide such point-to-multipoint distribution, except to  
6 the extent that such entity provides such distribution  
7 pursuant to tariff under this Act.”; and

8 (3) by inserting after paragraph (50) (as redes-  
9 igned by paragraph (1) of this section) the fol-  
10 lowing new paragraph:

11 “(51) TELEVISION NETWORK; TELEVISION NET-  
12 WORK STATION.—

13 “(A) TELEVISION NETWORK.—The term  
14 ‘television network’ means a television network  
15 in the United States which offers an inter-  
16 connected program service on a regular basis  
17 for 15 or more hours per week to at least 25  
18 affiliated broadcast stations in 10 or more  
19 States.

20 “(B) TELEVISION NETWORK STATION.—  
21 The term ‘television network station’ means a  
22 television broadcast station that is owned or op-  
23 erated by, or affiliated with, a television net-  
24 work.”.



1 **SEC. 107. COMPLETION OF BIENNIAL REGULATORY RE-**  
2 **VIEW.**

3 Within 180 days after the date of enactment of this  
4 Act, the Commission shall complete the biennial review re-  
5 quired by section 202(h) of the Telecommunications Act  
6 of 1996.

7 **SEC. 108. RESULT OF LOSS OF NETWORK SERVICE.**

8 Until the Federal Communications Commission  
9 issues regulations under section 712(b)(2) of the Commu-  
10 nications Act of 1934, if a subscriber's network service  
11 is terminated as a result of the provisions of section 119  
12 of title 17, United States Code, the satellite carrier shall,  
13 upon the request of the subscriber, provide to the sub-  
14 scriber free of charge an over-the-air television broadcast  
15 receiving antenna that will provide the subscriber with an  
16 over-the-air signal of Grade B intensity for those network  
17 stations that were terminated as a result of such section  
18 119.

19 **SEC. 109. INTERIM PROVISIONS.**

20 Until the Federal Communications Commission  
21 issues and implements regulations under section 712(b)(2)  
22 of the Communications Act of 1934, no subscriber whose  
23 household is located outside the Grade A contour of a net-  
24 work station shall have his or her satellite service of an-  
25 other network station affiliated with that same network

1 terminated as a result of the provisions of section 119 of  
2 title 17, United States Code.

3 **TITLE II—SECONDARY TRANS-**  
4 **MISSIONS BY SATELLITE CAR-**  
5 **RIERS WITHIN LOCAL MAR-**  
6 **KETS**

7 **SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.**

8 This title may be cited as the “Satellite Copyright  
9 Compulsory License Improvement Act”.

10 **SEC. 202. LIMITATIONS ON EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS; SEC-**  
11 **ONDARY TRANSMISSIONS BY SATELLITE CAR-**  
12 **RIERS WITHIN LOCAL MARKETS.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 1 of title 17, United  
14 States Code, is amended by adding after section 121 the  
15 following new section:

16 **“§ 122. Limitations on exclusive rights; secondary**  
17 **transmissions by satellite carriers within**  
18 **local markets**

19 “(a) SECONDARY TRANSMISSIONS OF TELEVISION  
20 BROADCAST STATIONS BY SATELLITE CARRIERS.—A sec-  
21 ondary transmission of a primary transmission of a tele-  
22 vision broadcast station into the station’s local market  
23 shall be subject to statutory licensing under this section  
24 if—

1           “(1) the secondary transmission is made by a  
2 satellite carrier to the public;

3           “(2) the satellite carrier is in compliance with  
4 the rules, regulations, or authorizations of the Fed-  
5 eral Communications Commission governing the car-  
6 riage of television broadcast station signals; and

7           “(3) the satellite carrier makes a direct or indi-  
8 rect charge for the secondary transmission to—

9                   “(A) each subscriber receiving the sec-  
10 ondary transmission; or

11                   “(B) a distributor that has contracted with  
12 the satellite carrier for direct or indirect deliv-  
13 ery of the secondary transmission to the public.

14           “(b) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

15           “(1) INITIAL LISTS.—A satellite carrier that  
16 makes secondary transmissions of a primary trans-  
17 mission made by a network station under subsection  
18 (a) shall, within 90 days after commencing such sec-  
19 ondary transmissions, submit to the network that  
20 owns or is affiliated with the network station a list  
21 identifying (by name in alphabetical order and street  
22 address, including county and zip code) all sub-  
23 scribers to which the satellite carrier currently  
24 makes secondary transmissions of that primary  
25 transmission pursuant to this section.

1           “(2) SUBSEQUENT LISTS.—After the list is sub-  
2           mitted under paragraph (1), the satellite carrier  
3           shall, on the 15th of each month, submit to the net-  
4           work a list identifying (by name in alphabetical  
5           order and street address, including county and zip  
6           code) any subscribers who have been added or  
7           dropped as subscribers since the last submission  
8           under this subsection.

9           “(3) USE OF SUBSCRIBER INFORMATION.—Sub-  
10          subscriber information submitted by a satellite carrier  
11          under this subsection may be used only for the pur-  
12          poses of monitoring compliance by the satellite car-  
13          rier with this section.

14          “(4) REQUIREMENTS OF STATIONS.—The sub-  
15          mission requirements of this subsection shall apply  
16          to a satellite carrier only if the network to which the  
17          submissions are to be made places on file with the  
18          Register of Copyrights a document identifying the  
19          name and address of the person to whom such sub-  
20          missions are to be made. The Register shall main-  
21          tain for public inspection a file of all such docu-  
22          ments.

23          “(c) NO ROYALTY FEE REQUIRED.—A satellite car-  
24          rier whose secondary transmissions are subject to statu-

1 tory licensing under subsection (a) shall have no royalty  
2 obligation for such secondary transmissions.

3 “(d) NONCOMPLIANCE WITH REPORTING AND REGU-  
4 LATORY REQUIREMENTS.—Notwithstanding subsection  
5 (a), the willful or repeated secondary transmission to the  
6 public by a satellite carrier into the local market of a tele-  
7 vision broadcast station of a primary transmission made  
8 by that television broadcast station and embodying a per-  
9 formance or display of a work is actionable as an act of  
10 infringement under section 501, and is fully subject to the  
11 remedies provided under sections 502 through 506 and  
12 509, if the satellite carrier has not complied with the re-  
13 porting requirements of subsection (b) or with the rules,  
14 regulations, and authorizations of the Federal Commu-  
15 nications Commission concerning the carriage of television  
16 broadcast signals.

17 “(e) WILLFUL ALTERATIONS.—Notwithstanding  
18 subsection (a), the secondary transmission to the public  
19 by a satellite carrier into the local market of a television  
20 broadcast station of a primary transmission made by that  
21 television broadcast station and embodying a performance  
22 or display of a work is actionable as an act of infringement  
23 under section 501, and is fully subject to the remedies pro-  
24 vided by sections 502 through 506 and sections 509 and  
25 510, if the content of the particular program in which the

1 performance or display is embodied, or any commercial ad-  
2 vertising or station announcement transmitted by the pri-  
3 mary transmitter during, or immediately before or after,  
4 the transmission of such program, is in any way willfully  
5 altered by the satellite carrier through changes, deletions,  
6 or additions, or is combined with programming from any  
7 other broadcast signal.

8 “(f) VIOLATION OF TERRITORIAL RESTRICTIONS ON  
9 STATUTORY LICENSE FOR TELEVISION BROADCAST STA-  
10 TIONS.—

11 “(1) INDIVIDUAL VIOLATIONS.—The willful or  
12 repeated secondary transmission to the public by a  
13 satellite carrier of a primary transmission made by  
14 a television broadcast station and embodying a per-  
15 formance or display of a work to a subscriber who  
16 does not reside in that station’s local market, and is  
17 not subject to statutory licensing under section 119,  
18 or a private licensing agreement, is actionable as an  
19 act of infringement under section 501 and is fully  
20 subject to the remedies provided by sections 502  
21 through 506 and 509, except that—

22 “(A) no damages shall be awarded for such  
23 act of infringement if the satellite carrier took  
24 corrective action by promptly withdrawing serv-  
25 ice from the ineligible subscriber; and

1           “(B) any statutory damages shall not ex-  
2           ceed \$5 for such subscriber for each month dur-  
3           ing which the violation occurred.

4           “(2) PATTERN OF VIOLATIONS.—If a satellite  
5           carrier engages in a willful or repeated pattern or  
6           practice of secondarily transmitting to the public a  
7           primary transmission made by a television broadcast  
8           station and embodying a performance or display of  
9           a work to subscribers who do not reside in that sta-  
10          tion’s local market, and are not subject to statutory  
11          licensing under section 119, then in addition to the  
12          remedies under paragraph (1)—

13           “(A) if the pattern or practice has been  
14          carried out on a substantially nationwide basis,  
15          the court shall order a permanent injunction  
16          barring the secondary transmission by the sat-  
17          ellite carrier of the primary transmissions of  
18          that television broadcast station (and if such  
19          television broadcast station is a network sta-  
20          tion, all other television broadcast stations af-  
21          filiated with such network), and the court may  
22          order statutory damages not exceeding  
23          \$250,000 for each 6-month period during which  
24          the pattern or practice was carried out; and

1           “(B) if the pattern or practice has been  
2           carried out on a local or regional basis with re-  
3           spect to more than one television broadcast sta-  
4           tion (and if such television broadcast station is  
5           a network station, all other television broadcast  
6           stations affiliated with such network), the court  
7           shall order a permanent injunction barring the  
8           secondary transmission in that locality or re-  
9           gion by the satellite carrier of the primary  
10          transmissions of any television broadcast sta-  
11          tion, and the court may order statutory dam-  
12          ages not exceeding \$250,000 for each 6-month  
13          period during which the pattern or practice was  
14          carried out.

15          “(g) BURDEN OF PROOF.—In any action brought  
16          under subsection (d), (e), or (f), the satellite carrier shall  
17          have the burden of proving that its secondary transmission  
18          of a primary transmission by a television broadcast station  
19          is made only to subscribers located within that station’s  
20          local market or subscribers being served in compliance  
21          with section 119.

22          “(h) GEOGRAPHIC LIMITATIONS ON SECONDARY  
23          TRANSMISSIONS.—The statutory license created by this  
24          section shall apply to secondary transmissions to locations



1 in the United States, and any commonwealth, territory,  
2 or possession of the United States.

3 “(i) EXCLUSIVITY WITH RESPECT TO SECONDARY  
4 TRANSMISSIONS OF BROADCAST STATIONS BY SATELLITE  
5 TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.—No provision of section  
6 111 or any other law (other than this section and section  
7 119) shall be construed to contain any authorization, ex-  
8 emption, or license through which secondary transmissions  
9 by satellite carriers of programming contained in a pri-  
10 mary transmission made by a television broadcast station  
11 may be made without obtaining the consent of the copy-  
12 right owner.

13 “(j) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

14 “(1) DISTRIBUTOR.—The term ‘distributor’  
15 means an entity which contracts to distribute sec-  
16 ondary transmissions from a satellite carrier and, ei-  
17 ther as a single channel or in a package with other  
18 programming, provides the secondary transmission  
19 either directly to individual subscribers or indirectly  
20 through other program distribution entities.

21 “(2) LOCAL MARKET.—The ‘local market’ of a  
22 television broadcast station has the meaning given  
23 that term under section 3 of the Communications  
24 Act of 1934.

1           “(3) NETWORK STATION; SATELLITE CARRIER;  
2           SECONDARY TRANSMISSION.—The terms ‘network  
3           station’, ‘satellite carrier’ and ‘secondary trans-  
4           mission’ have the meanings given such terms under  
5           section 119(d).

6           “(4) SUBSCRIBER.—The term ‘subscriber’  
7           means a person that receives a secondary trans-  
8           mission service by means of a secondary trans-  
9           mission from a satellite and pays a fee for the serv-  
10          ice, directly or indirectly, to the satellite carrier or  
11          to a distributor.

12          “(5) TELEVISION BROADCAST STATION.—The  
13          term ‘television broadcast station’ means an over-  
14          the-air, commercial or noncommercial television  
15          broadcast station licensed by the Federal Commu-  
16          nications Commission under subpart E of part 73 of  
17          title 47, Code of Federal Regulations.”.

18          (b) INFRINGEMENT OF COPYRIGHT.—Section 501 of  
19          title 17, United States Code, is amended by adding at the  
20          end the following new subsection:

21          “(f) With respect to any secondary transmission that  
22          is made by a satellite carrier of a primary transmission  
23          embodying the performance or display of a work and is  
24          actionable as an act of infringement under section 122,  
25          a television broadcast station holding a copyright or other

1 license to transmit or perform the same version of that  
 2 work shall, for purposes of subsection (b) of this section,  
 3 be treated as a legal or beneficial owner if such secondary  
 4 transmission occurs within the local market of that sta-  
 5 tion.”.

6 (c) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—  
 7 The table of sections for chapter 1 of title 17, United  
 8 States Code, is amended by adding after the item relating  
 9 to section 121 the following:

“122. Limitations on exclusive rights; secondary transmissions by satellite car-  
 riers within local market.”.

10 **SEC. 203. EXTENSION OF EFFECT OF AMENDMENTS TO SEC-**  
 11 **TION 119 OF TITLE 17, UNITED STATES CODE.**

12 Section 4(a) of the Satellite Home Viewer Act of  
 13 1994 (17 U.S.C. 119 note; Public Law 103–369; 108  
 14 Stat. 3481) is amended by striking “December 31, 1999”  
 15 and inserting “December 31, 2004”.

16 **SEC. 204. COMPUTATION OF ROYALTY FEES FOR SAT-**  
 17 **ELLITE CARRIERS.**

18 Section 119(e) of title 17, United States Code, is  
 19 amended by adding at the end the following new para-  
 20 graph:

21 “(4) REDUCTION.—

22 “(A) SUPERSTATION.—The rate of the  
 23 royalty fee in effect on January 1, 1998, pay-

1           able in each case under subsection (b)(1)(B)(i)  
2           shall be reduced by 30 percent.

3           “(B) NETWORK.—The rate of the royalty  
4           fee in effect on January 1, 1998, payable under  
5           subsection (b)(1)(B)(ii) shall be reduced by 45  
6           percent.

7           “(5) PUBLIC BROADCASTING SERVICE AS  
8           AGENT.—For purposes of section 802, with respect  
9           to royalty fees paid by satellite carriers for re-  
10          transmitting the Public Broadcasting Service sat-  
11          ellite feed, the Public Broadcasting Service shall be  
12          the agent for all public television copyright claimants  
13          and all Public Broadcasting Service member sta-  
14          tions.”.

15 **SEC. 205. PUBLIC BROADCASTING SERVICE SATELLITE**  
16 **FEED; DEFINITIONS.**

17          (a) SECONDARY TRANSMISSIONS.—Section 119(a)(1)  
18 of title 17, United States Code, is amended—

19               (1) by striking the paragraph heading and in-  
20               serting “(1) SUPERSTATIONS AND PBS SATELLITE  
21               FEED.—”;

22               (2) by inserting “or by the Public Broadcasting  
23               Service satellite feed” after “superstation”; and

1           (3) by adding at the end the following: “In the  
2 case of the Public Broadcasting Service satellite  
3 feed, subsequent to—

4           “(A) the date when a majority of sub-  
5 sscribers to satellite carriers are able to receive  
6 the signal of at least one noncommercial edu-  
7 cational television broadcast station from their  
8 satellite carrier within such stations’ local mar-  
9 ket; or

10           “(B) 2 years after the effective date of the  
11 Satellite Copyright Compulsory License Im-  
12 provement Act,

13 whichever is earlier, the statutory license created by  
14 this section shall be conditioned on certification of  
15 support pursuant to section 396(n) of the Commu-  
16 nications Act of 1934.”.

17       (b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 119(d) of title 17, United  
18 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
19 lowing:

20           “(12) PUBLIC BROADCASTING SERVICE SAT-  
21 ELLITE FEED.—The term ‘Public Broadcasting  
22 Service satellite feed’ means the national satellite  
23 feed distributed by the Public Broadcasting Service  
24 consisting of educational and informational program-  
25 ming intended for private home viewing, to which

1 the Public Broadcasting Service holds national ter-  
2 restrial broadcast rights.

3 “(13) LOCAL MARKET.—The term ‘local mar-  
4 ket’ has the meaning given that term in section  
5 122(j)(2).

6 “(14) TELEVISION BROADCAST STATION.—The  
7 term ‘television broadcast station’ has the meaning  
8 given that term in section 122(j)(5).”.

9 **SEC. 206. DISTANT SIGNAL RETRANSMISSIONS.**

10 Section 119 of title 17, United States Code, is  
11 amended—

12 (1) in subsection (a)—

13 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “(6)”  
14 and inserting “(5)”;

15 (B) in paragraph (2)—

16 (i) by striking

17 “(2) NETWORK STATIONS.—

18 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the provi-  
19 sions of subparagraphs (B) and (C) of this  
20 paragraph and paragraphs (3), (4), (5), and  
21 (6)” and inserting:

22 “(2) NETWORK STATIONS.—

23 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the provi-  
24 sions of subparagraph (B) of this paragraph  
25 and paragraphs (3), (4), and (5)”;

1 (ii) by striking subparagraph (B) and  
2 redesignating subparagraph (C) as sub-  
3 paragraph (B);  
4 (C) in paragraph (3), by striking “(2)(C)”  
5 and inserting “(2)(B)”;

6 (D) by striking paragraphs (5), (8), (9),  
7 and (10) and redesignating paragraphs (6) and  
8 (7) as paragraphs (5) and (6), respectively; and  
9 (2) in subsection (d), by striking paragraphs  
10 (10) and (11).

11 **SEC. 207. APPLICATION OF FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS**  
12 **COMMISSION REGULATIONS.**

13 Section 119(a) of title 17, United States Code, is  
14 amended—

15 (1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “the satellite  
16 carrier is in compliance with the rules, regulations,  
17 or authorizations of the Federal Communications  
18 Commission governing the carriage of television  
19 broadcast station signals,” after “satellite carrier to  
20 the public for private home viewing,”;

21 (2) in paragraph (2), by inserting “the satellite  
22 carrier is in compliance with the rules, regulations,  
23 or authorizations of the Federal Communications  
24 Commission governing the carriage of television

1 broadcast station signals,” after “satellite carrier to  
2 the public for private home viewing,”; and

3 (3) by adding at the end the following new  
4 paragraph:

5 “(10) STATUTORY LICENSE CONTINGENT ON  
6 COMPLIANCE WITH FCC RULES AND REMEDIAL  
7 STEPS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this  
8 section, the willful or repeated secondary trans-  
9 mission to the public by a satellite carrier of a pri-  
10 mary transmission made by a broadcast station li-  
11 censed by the Federal Communications Commission  
12 is actionable as an act of infringement under section  
13 501, and is fully subject to the remedies provided by  
14 sections 502 through 506 and 509, if, at the time  
15 of such transmission, the satellite carrier is not in  
16 compliance with the rules, regulations, and author-  
17 izations of the Federal Communications Commission  
18 concerning the carriage of television broadcast sta-  
19 tion signals.”.

20 **SEC. 208. STUDY ON TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT**  
21 **OF MUST-CARRY ON DELIVERY OF LOCAL**  
22 **SIGNALS.**

23 Not later than July 1, 2000, the Register of Copy-  
24 rights and the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Com-  
25 munications and Information shall submit to the Congress



1 a joint report that sets forth in detail their findings and  
2 conclusions with respect to the following:

3 (1) The availability of local television broadcast  
4 signals in small and rural markets as part of a serv-  
5 ice that competes with, or supplements, video pro-  
6 gramming containing copyrighted material delivered  
7 by satellite carriers or cable operators.

8 (2) The technical feasibility of imposing the re-  
9 quirements of section 338 of the Communications  
10 Act of 1934 on satellite carriers that deliver local  
11 broadcast station signals containing copyrighted ma-  
12 terial pursuant to section 122 of title 17, United  
13 States Code, and the technical and economic impact  
14 of section 338 of the Communications Act of 1934  
15 on the ability of satellite carriers to serve multiple  
16 television markets with retransmission of local tele-  
17 vision broadcast stations, with particular consider-  
18 ation given to the ability to serve television markets  
19 other than the 100 largest television markets in the  
20 United States (as determined by the Nielson Media  
21 Research and published in the DMA market and De-  
22 mographic Report).

23 (3) The technological capability of dual satellite  
24 dish technology to receive effectively over-the-air  
25 broadcast transmissions containing copyrighted ma-

1       terial from the local market, the availability of such  
2       capability in small and rural markets, and the af-  
3       fordability of such capability.

4           (4) The technological capability (including in-  
5       terference), availability, and affordability of wireless  
6       cable (or terrestrial wireless) delivery of local broad-  
7       cast station signals containing copyrighted material  
8       pursuant to section 111 of title 17, United States  
9       Code, including the feasibility and desirability of the  
10      expedited licensing of such competitive wireless tech-  
11      nologies for rural and small markets.

12          (5) The technological capability, availability,  
13      and affordability of a broadcast-only basic tier of  
14      cable service.

15 **SEC. 209. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

16      This title and the amendments made by this title  
17      shall take effect on July 1, 1999, except that section 208  
18      and the amendments made by section 205 shall take effect  
19      on the date of the enactment of this Act.

Passed the House of Representatives April 27, 1999.

Attest:

JEFF TRANDAHL,

*Clerk.*