

Finally, the original FCC intent in reserving television channels was to create educational television services across the country that would be delivered by television stations that did not have to make a profit to exist. Privatizing public television would take away from the public the one television channel that has been established to provide programming and services that otherwise would not be available on commercial television.

3. Federal funding for public broadcasting is an involuntary tax.

Since we do not vote directly on what programs and projects are funded with tax money, it follows that all federal programs are funded with involuntary tax funds.

The federal government, through the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), licenses commercial television and radio stations, allowing them to use the public airways to distribute programs, to sell advertising to pay for those programs and to return dividends to the owners of those stations. Each of us pays for the advertising costs on commercial radio and television every time we buy one of the products advertised—and we pay far more than the one dollar per year per citizen (the amount paid each year in tax support of public broadcasting) in increased costs for those products. How about that involuntary tax?

4. When there were only three commercial television networks, there were reasons to provide support for an alternate public television service, but cable television has eliminated that need with services such as the Discovery Channel and Arts and Entertainment available for adults and Nickelodeon for children.

Nationally, over 36 percent of all television households do not subscribe to cable television because either they cannot afford to or they have chosen not to (cable television is available to over 95 percent of all television households). Public television, of course, is free to anyone with a television set, while cable users pay a monthly fee.

While Discovery and Arts and Entertainment are excellent cable networks, they do not provide the breadth of service that viewers receive from KCPT—public affairs programs, children's fare or educational services, all part of KCPT's daily schedule of services.

Discovery, Arts and Entertainment and Nickelodeon provide no local programs or services. Compare these services to KCPT's City Watch; Marquee, Viva, Kansas City!; Kansas City Week in Review; specials such as our coverage of the Mid-West Health Summit; Women's Health issues; political coverage and debates; A great Current Running, a 90-minute documentary on Charles Gusewelle's epic trip down the Lena River in Siberia; KC Crossroads, a 60-minute pilot now being considered for funding by CPB as a national series featuring jazz and blues from the Kansas City area; and Ain't Seen Nothin' Like It Since, a 90-minute documentary on the world champion Kansas City Monarchs of the former Negro Baseball League; and our outreach efforts such as Sesame Street Pre-School Education Project (PEP); GED on TV; The Ready to Learn Project; Outstanding Community Kids; Break the Mold Teacher Awards; and Act Against Violence, an anti-violence outreach project now in the planning stages.

In a speech last March, Nickelodeon's president, Geraldine Laybourne, announced a \$30 million three-year initiative, demonstrating, according to her, the breadth of Nick's commitment to children's programming. The fact is that public television invests over \$16 million each year on children's programming, or an average of \$48 million over three years (not including local expend-

itures on children's programming). She went on to say that Nickelodeon could concentrate on creating entertaining children's programming, while PBS had to incorporate education into its children's shows—thereby making them dull programs. Preschoolers are drawn to PBS programs far more than commercial children's shows precisely because they so effectively combine fun with learning. Our mission is not to offer fun for fun's sake—cable and broadcast commercial television offer that—but fun programs that also help children love to learn. Experts agree on the importance of developing basic learning skills at an early age, the skills that ultimately enable children to succeed in school and interact socially.

Discovery, Arts and Entertainment and Nickelodeon have no responsibilities to the local communities receiving their programming nor is any revenue generated for their services returned to those communities. KCPT \$5.3 million budget is spent primarily in the greater Kansas City area. KCPT pays local companies for janitorial services, electricity, maintenance and other services. KCPT employs 65 people who receive \$2 million in salaries. In fact, KCPT is the only locally owned telecommunications organization serving the greater Kansas City area. KCPT's Board of Directors come from the communities served by the station and are responsible to those local communities for KCPT's operations.

5. Public television's educational services are no longer needed because cable and satellites are available to deliver those services.

Once again localism and commercial-free programming are keys in addressing this statement KCPT serves 350,000 K-12 students in Kansas and Missouri each year. The instructional television programs for that service are selected by the teachers who will use them. KCPT also has a staff of resource specialists for hands-on training for the teachers, and more than 300 hours of training each year is provided by these staff.

In designing our on-line computer support system for our teachers and students, Link 19, local components of the service were created in response to the needs of the schools in the area KCPT serves.

KCPT is now constructing an electronic training facility that will enable us to help teachers master the use of telecommunications in the classroom and improve the quality of education in our community.

KCPT initiates numerous local outreach activities including Sesame Street PEP; GED on TV; Outstanding Community Kids; Breaking the Mold awards for outstanding teachers; women's health-care outreach programming; and reducing violence in our youth campaign.

Local components of the Ready to Learn project, to begin January 16, 1995, are being developed with the advice of over twenty community organizations that are part of KCPT's Ready to Learn Advisory Council.

The National Teacher Training Institute provides a two-day training workshop with college credit for in-service development for more than 100 K-12 faculty on an annual basis in math and science education.

SUMMARY

Federal funds for KCPT are matched by nine community dollars for every one federal dollar—a good return on investment by any measurement. All federal support for public broadcasting amounts to about one dollar per year per person. Are there any other federal programs you know about that return on that small investment all that public broadcasting does? Support for public broadcasting is an example of a federal program that works, a private/public partnership that returns quality national and local edu-

cational and informational programs and services not available anywhere else.

COMMEMORATING TEXAS INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. HENRY BONILLA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 1995

Mr. BONILLA. Mr. Speaker, today, commemorates Texas' independence from a despotic government. During the Texas revolution, 1835-36, Texians, as they called themselves, struggled, fought, and ultimately achieved a victory over a much larger foe. These freedom loving men, women, and children sacrificed their all in the pursuit of liberty. One of the greatest symbols of the ultimate sacrifice for Texas freedom—the Alamo—is in my hometown of San Antonio, TX.

The Alamo, originally a mission inhabited by European priests and their native American flock, still stands in tribute to the 189 fallen defenders.

Many of the defenders of the Alamo were natives of other American States. Represented and well honored are men from Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Vermont, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Louisiana, New Jersey, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, Missouri, Maryland, Arkansas, and New York and the Volunteer State of Tennessee. To my fellow members from these States—Texas and Texans are grateful for their sacrifice.

Let us also not forget that amongst those who died defending the cradle of Texas freedom and who fought along side of such famous names as Travis, Bowie, and Crockett were Spanish surnamed, native born "Tejanos." These Tejanos were proud to fight for a just cause. I am proud of their legacy and I am proud of my Texas heritage.

Remember the Alamo! Viva Los Tejanos! Long Live the Lone Star State, and God Bless America!

A WELL EARNED DAY OF RETIREMENT

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 1995

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to mark March 3, 1995, as the retirement day for four employees of the United Steelworkers of America. This is a well-earned day of retirement and celebration for Leonard Hickey, Gayle Cody, R.L. Pace, and Catherine Hatch, whose distinguished careers in the labor movement have made their communities and Nation a better place to work and live.

Leonard "Len" Hickey, United Steelworkers of America, district 31, assistant director, was born in Muddy, IL, and began working, in 1952, at the Taylor Pipe Works in 1952. A heater at Bethlehem Steel's Burns Harbor plant, Len was elected as the first president of Local Union 6787. He later served in negotiations with Bethlehem and National Can. Len's