



AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To require the FCC to study the impact of television sports programming and the costs to consumers.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—113th Cong., 2d Sess.

S. _____

To extend the authority of satellite carriers to retransmit certain television broadcast station signals, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Mr. BLUMENTHAL

Viz:

1 After section 301, insert the following:

2 **SEC. 302. FCC STUDY ON TELEVISION SPORTS PROGRAM-**
3 **MING COSTS TO CONSUMERS.**

4 (a) STUDY.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Federal Communica-
6 tions Commission shall conduct a study on the car-
7 riage of local, regional, and national sports program-
8 ming licensed by professional sports leagues, not in-
9 cluding college athletics, to broadcast networks,
10 cable networks, and regional sports networks and
11 the estimated impact of such programming on the

1 multichannel video programming distributor subscrip-
2 tion fees paid by consumers.

3 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—The study required
4 under paragraph (1) shall investigate and analyze
5 the trends for the 10-year period immediately pre-
6 ceding the study on—

7 (A) television sports programming distribu-
8 tion models including sports programming li-
9 censing deals with broadcast networks, cable
10 networks, and regional sports networks;

11 (B) fees paid by broadcast networks, cable
12 networks, and regional sports networks to li-
13 cense local, regional, and national sports pro-
14 gramming;

15 (C) the use of advertising revenue, con-
16 sumer subscription fees, retransmission fees,
17 and affiliate fees collected by broadcast net-
18 works, cable networks, regional sports networks,
19 and multichannel video programming distribu-
20 tors to offset the costs to license or distribute
21 television sports programming;

22 (D) the correlation between multichannel
23 video programming distributor subscription fees
24 paid by consumers and the costs broadcast net-
25 works, cable networks, and regional sports net-

1 works pay to license sports programming and
2 the costs multichannel video programming dis-
3 tributors pay to retransmit or distribute broad-
4 cast networks, cable networks, and regional
5 sports networks to consumers; and

6 (E) trends, on a sport-by-sport basis, in
7 the migration of local, regional, and national
8 sports programming from carriage by broadcast
9 networks to carriage over cable networks and
10 regional sports networks, including the eco-
11 nomic causes of such trends and the economic
12 consequences of such trends on consumers.

13 (b) REPORT.—As part of the annual report required
14 to be submitted under section 623(k) of the Communica-
15 tions Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 543(k)), as amended by this
16 Act, the Federal Communications Commission shall sub-
17 mit an annual report on the results of the study required
18 under subsection (a) to the Committee on Energy and
19 Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Com-
20 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the
21 Senate, which shall include—

22 (1) a statement of the results, on a sport-by-
23 sport basis, of the analysis of the trends during the
24 10-year period immediately preceding the study re-
25 quired under subsection (a); and

1 (2) such legislative or regulatory recommenda-
2 tions to lower the costs of multichannel video pro-
3 gramming distributor subscription fees paid by con-
4 sumers.