

Responses to Written Questions Submitted by Honorable Rick Scott to Emily Barr

Question. Current STELAR language requires multichannel video programming distributors and broadcasters to negotiate in “good faith.” Why do we need a government mandate to ensure industry partners negotiate in “good faith?”

*Response.* While well intended, the expiring good faith requirement has provided no quantifiable benefit, in large part because both parties have every incentive to reach a deal without a government backstop. As a broadcaster who is frequently outmatched in size and revenue by the pay-TV companies with whom I negotiate, I can state with certainty that STELAR’s expiration will have no impact on my ability to complete a retransmission consent deal.