

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To require a report by the Federal Communications Commission on designated market areas.

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. BOOKER (for himself and Mrs. FISCHER)

Viz:

1 At the appropriate place, insert the following:

2 **SEC. ____ . REPORT ON DESIGNATED MARKET AREAS.**

3 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

4 (1) the term “appropriate congressional com-
5 mittees” means—

6 (A) the Committee on Energy and Com-
7 merce and the Committee on the Judiciary of
8 the House of Representatives; and

9 (B) the Committee on Commerce, Science,
10 and Transportation and the Committee on the
11 Judiciary of the Senate;

1 (2) the term “Commission” means the Federal
2 Communications Commission;

3 (3) the terms “designated market area” and
4 “local market” have the meaning given those terms
5 in section 122(j) of title 17, United States Code; and

6 (4) the term “television broadcast station” has
7 the meaning given the term in section 325(b)(7) of
8 the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C.
9 325(b)(7)).

10 (b) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

11 (1) The telecommunications and media policy of
12 the United States has long valued localism, competi-
13 tion, and diversity of voices.

14 (2) Broadcasters play an essential role in pro-
15 viding critical emergency alerts, news, and informa-
16 tion that responds to the needs of their communities.

17 (3) Broadcast television remains an important
18 medium for reaching communities, even as techno-
19 logical innovations and new forms of communication
20 continue to expand.

21 (4) It is in the public interest to study—

22 (A) how designated market areas impact
23 access to local and in-State programming; and

24 (B) how any deficiencies in localism might
25 be addressed.

1 (c) REPORT.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months
3 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commis-
4 sion shall submit to the appropriate congressional
5 committees a report that contains—

6 (A) an analysis of—

7 (i) the extent to which consumers in
8 each local market have access to broadcast
9 programming from television broadcast
10 stations located outside their local market;
11 and

12 (ii)(I) whether there are alternatives
13 to the use of designated market areas to
14 define markets that would provide con-
15 sumers with more local programming op-
16 tions; and

17 (II) the potential impact the alter-
18 natives described in clause (i) could have
19 on localism and on broadcast television lo-
20 cally, regionally, and nationally; and

21 (B) recommendations on how to foster in-
22 creased localism in States served by out-of-
23 State designated market areas.

24 (2) CONSIDERATIONS FOR FOSTERING IN-
25 CREASED LOCALISM.—In making recommendations

1 under paragraph (1)(B), the Commission shall con-
2 sider—

3 (A) the impact that designated market
4 areas that cross State lines have on access to
5 local programming;

6 (B) the impact that designated market
7 areas have on local programming in rural areas;
8 and

9 (C) the state of local programming in
10 States served exclusively by out-of-State des-
11 ignated market areas.