

FCC Consumer Advisory Committee Recommendation Regarding Continued Federal Funding of Public Broadcasting

The Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) provides meaningful financial support for qualified television and radio stations that already are on the air. CPB is authorized to facilitate the full development of noncommercial radio and television services airing free and high-quality local, national and international news, public affairs programming, diversity of opinion, public safety alerts, and children's programming and a wide array of cultural content.

A loss or significant reduction of federal funds to CPB would impact – negatively and dramatically – all currently funded stations, causing reductions in programming and services to local communities and, in some cases, leading to stations going off the air. Such impacts would be of nationwide scope, and particularly acute in rural, tribal, native, and disability communities.

THEREFORE, the Consumer Advisory Committee recommends that the Federal Communications Commission, in its interaction with the Administration and with the Congress, support continued federal funding of CPB so as to enable CPB to continue its support for public broadcast stations, including those providing service to rural, tribal, native, and disability communities.

Adopted, November 4, 2011

Debra R. Berlyn, Chairperson
FCC Consumer Advisory Committee

Abstaining: Consumer Electronics Association, CTIA The Wireless Association, National Association of Broadcasters, Time Warner Cable, T-mobile, Verizon