

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1563

To require the Federal Communications Commission to report to Congress regarding the ownership and control of broadcast stations used to serve language minorities, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 1 (legislative day, JULY 21), 2003

Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mrs. CLINTON, and Mr. PRYOR) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To require the Federal Communications Commission to report to Congress regarding the ownership and control of broadcast stations used to serve language minorities, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “National Minority
5 Media Opportunities Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. BROADCAST OWNERSHIP.**

7 (a) REVIEW OF LICENSE TRANSFER.—Section
8 211(b) of the Telecommunications Authorization Act of

1 1992 (Public Law 102–538; 106 Stat. 3545) is amended
2 by adding at the end the following: “Subsection (a) also
3 applies to any person holding a broadcast license used pri-
4 marily to serve a language minority. The hearing required
5 by subsection (a) shall include record evidence, analysis,
6 and Commission findings regarding the effects of the ap-
7 plication on competition and diversity in the programming
8 and distribution markets for the specific minority lan-
9 guage at issue. For purposes of this subsection, the term
10 ‘language minority’ means persons who are American In-
11 dian, Asian American, Alaskan Natives, or of Spanish her-
12 itage.”.

13 (b) BROADCAST STATIONS SERVING LANGUAGE MI-
14 NORITIES.—Section 202 of the Telecommunications Act of
15 1996 (Public Law 104–104; 110 Stat. 111) is amended
16 by adding at the end the following:

17 “(i) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than January
18 1, 2004, the Commission shall, after notice and comment,
19 report to Congress regarding the ownership and control
20 of broadcast stations (including AM, FM, and television
21 broadcast stations) used to serve language minorities. The
22 Commission shall consider the effects, with respect to both
23 competition and diversity concerns, of multiple ownership
24 and undue concentration in the programming and dis-
25 tribution markets specific to a language minority. For

- 1 purposes of this subsection, the term ‘language minority’
- 2 means persons who are American Indian, Asian American,
- 3 Alaskan Natives, or of Spanish heritage.”.

