



THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE
Washington, D.C. 20230

April 1, 2008

The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye
Chairman
Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing to offer the Bush Administration's views on S.J.Res. 28, a resolution that would overturn a recent Federal Communications Commission (FCC) order permitting newspaper/broadcast cross ownership in the largest media markets. As you know, the Administration supported this FCC action and strongly opposes any attempt to overturn these rules by legislative means.

The FCC order modernizes outdated media ownership regulations to appropriately take into account the plethora of news and information outlets that exist today. This action, which is the product of years of study and extensive public comment and consultation, more accurately reflects the changing media landscape and will help the public interest by providing greater financial flexibility to newspaper and broadcast outlets struggling to survive in today's intensely competitive media environment. Likewise, to overturn this action and require the Federal Government to reassert regulatory constraints on business decisions in a competitive media marketplace would exacerbate newspaper and broadcast financial challenges and thus not be in the public interest.

Accordingly, if S.J.Res. 28 were presented to the President, his senior advisors would recommend that he veto the bill.

As always, I remain committed to working with you closely to address these important issues. If you have any questions, please contact me or Nat Wienecke, Assistant Secretary for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, at (202) 482-3663.

Sincerely,

Carlos M. Gutierrez

cc: The Honorable Ted Stevens
Vice-Chairman
Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation