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THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

UT 001-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: AUGUST 28, 1987

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MS. KAROLE L. WHITE

SUBJECT: WRITES ON BEHALF OF THE MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION
OF BROADCASTERS IN FULL SUPPORT OF THE VETO
ON THE RECENT BILL TO CODIFY THE FAIRNESS
DOCTRINE

| ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) | ACTION | | DISPOSITION | |
|---|-------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| | ACT CODE | DATE YY/MM/DD | TYPE RESP | C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD |
| ELIZABETH BOARD | ORG | 87/08/28 | | C 87/09/25 TR |
| COCONN REFERRAL NOTE: | A | 87/09/25 | AH | A 87/09/29 TR |
| REFERRAL NOTE: | | | | |
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COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES:

MI MAIL USER CODES: (A) (B) (C)

- *ACTION CODES: *DISPOSITION *OUTGOING *
- * * *CORRESPONDENCE: *
- *A-APPROPRIATE ACTION *A-ANSWERED *TYPE RESP=INITIALS *
- *C-COMMENT/RECOM *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL * OF SIGNER *
- *D-DRAFT RESPONSE *C-COMPLETED * CODE = A *
- *F-FURNISH FACT SHEET *S-SUSPENDED *COMPLETED = DATE OF *
- *I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC* * OUTGOING *
- *R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *
- *S-FOR-SIGNATURE *
- *X-INTERIM REPLY *

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
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LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

Letter I.D.....ST.870928.2
Writer Name.....Ms. Karole L. White
Number of Pages.....1
Final Reviewer.....
Final Review Date...
Print Date.....870929
PARAGRAPHS SELECTED:
P1:AVH477

NOTES INCLUDE:

ENCLOSURES INDLUDE:
E1:6/20/87 Veto Message by the President
E2:ELOPE
ENV/LBL.....ENVELOPE

SE

ST. 870928.2 510782
(encl resol) WHITE

1020 LONG. BLVD. SUITE 12
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48910
TELEPHONE (AREA CODE 517) 694-4977

MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION of BROADCASTERS

KAROLE L. WHITE
Executive Director

THOMAS J. CLEARY
Legislative Consultant

FRITZ BENSON
Associate

August 27, 1987

Elroy Board

The Honorable Ronald W. Reagan
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The members of the Michigan Association of Broadcasters are deeply appreciative and in full support of your veto on a recent bill to codify the Fairness Doctrine.

The Doctrine which appeared to have doubtful constitutionality has had a chilling affect on the free dissemination of views of public importance.

To show the support broadcasters of Michigan have for the recent FCC action to discontinue enforcement of the doctrine, the MAB Board of Directors voted on and unanimously passed the enclosed resolution at their annual convention.

This resolution was sent to the FCC, the Michigan Congressional Delegation, House and Senate Leadership, Key Committee Members and yourself.

A cover letter was sent explaining our reason for sending the resolution and our respectful request that they consider our point of view should proposed bills on codification come to fruition.

On behalf of the broadcast industry in Michigan, thank you once again for your support.

Sincerely,

Karole L. White

Karole L. White
Executive Director

KLW:sw

enclosure



| | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|---|--|
| PRESIDENT JAMES P. WHITE WOOD AM & FM, GR. RAPIDS | VICE PRESIDENT GUY O. SPITSBERG WLUC-TV, MARQUETTE | TREASURER THOMAS BRYSON WJRT-TV, FLINT | IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT RICHARD S. SOMMERVILLE WCEN AM & FM, MT. PLEASANT | THOMAS GRIESDORN WXYZ-TV, DETROIT | CHARLES D. MEFFORD WITL AM & FM, LANSING |
| ELAINE R. BAKER WOMC-FM DETROIT | NANCY A. WATERS WCXT-FM, HART | GEORGE H. WILLIAMS WKBD-TV, DETROIT | JOHN DeROCHE WZZM-TV, GRAND RAPIDS | CLEMENT (SKIP) DIEGEL, JR. WAAM-AM, ANN ARBOR | KENT SLOCUM WHFB AM & FM, BENTON HARBOR |
| | | | | | JERRY P. COLVIN WUHQ-TV, BATTLE CREEK |

MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION of BROADCASTERS

1020 LONG. BLVD. SUITE 12
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48910
TELEPHONE (AREA CODE 517) 694-4977

KAROLE L. WHITE
Executive Director

THOMAS J. CLEARY
Legislative Consultant

FRITZ BENSON
Associate

RESOLUTION

AUGUST 6, 1987

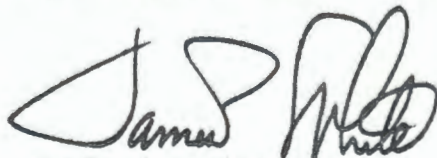
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

WHEREAS, THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION VOTED ON AUGUST 4, 1987 NOT TO CONTINUE ENFORCING THE SO CALLED FAIRNESS DOCTRINE BECAUSE OF ITS DOUBTFUL CONSTITUTIONALITY AND BECAUSE OF THE CHILLING EFFECT WHICH THE DOCTRINE EXERTS ON THE FREE DISSEMINATION OF VIEWS OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE AND

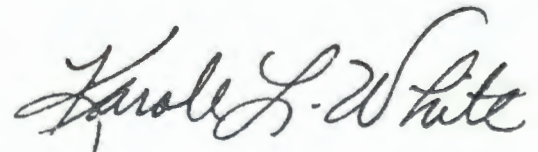
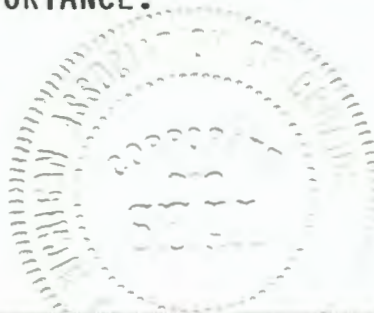
WHEREAS, MICHIGAN BROADCASTERS ARE AWARE OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE COMMUNITIES WHICH THEY ARE LICENSED TO SERVE AND BELIEVE THAT THE CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF THE DOCTRINE IS IN FACT CONTRARY TO THE PUBLIC INTEREST SINCE IT MAKES THE GOVERNMENT AN ARBITER OF THE ACCEPTABILITY OF THE JOURNALISTIC JUDGEMENT OF THE STATION OPERATORS

BE IT RESOLVED,

THAT THE MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS URGES ALL OF THE ELECTED OFFICIALS OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN AND ALL OTHER STATES TO OPPOSE THE PROPOSED REVIVAL OR CODIFICATION ON THE DOCTRINE AS AN UNNECESSARY AND DANGEROUS INTRUSION OF GOVERNMENT INTO THE INDEPENDENT DECISION MAKING BY BROADCAST LICENSEES. THE PUBLIC DESERVES AN UNFETTERED PRESENTATION OF THE VIEWS ON ISSUES OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE.



JAMES P. WHITE
PRESIDENT



KAROLE L. WHITE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



PRESIDENT
JAMES P. WHITE
WOOD AM & FM, GR. RAPIDS

VICE PRESIDENT
GUY D. SPITSBERG
WLUC-TV, MARQUETTE

TREASURER
THOMAS BRYSON
WJRT-TV, FLINT

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
RICHARD S. SOMMERVILLE
WCEN AM & FM, MT. PLEASANT

THOMAS GRIESDORN
WXYZ-TV,
DETROIT

CHARLES D. MEFFORD
WITL AM & FM,
LANSING

ELAINE R. BAKER
WOMC-FM
DETROIT

NANCY A. WATERS
WCXT-FM,
HART

GEORGE H. WILLIAMS
WKBD-TV,
DETROIT

JOHN DeROCHE
WZZM-TV,
GRAND RAPIDS

CLEMENT (SKIP) DIEGEL, JR.
WAAM-AM,
ANN ARBOR

KENT SLOCUM
WHFB AM & FM,
BENTON HARBOR

JERRY P. COLVIN
WUHQ-TV,
BATTLE CREEK

516681

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

2/620

June 23, 1987

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BE003-04
LE

CJ

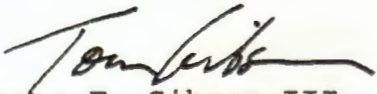
Dear Editor:

On Saturday, June 20, the President vetoed S. 742, the Fairness in Broadcasting Act of 1987. For your information, I am enclosing the President's veto statement and two recent editorials.

The "fairness doctrine" does not promote, but actually inhibits its stated purpose: the free and open discussion of controversial and important public issues. The doctrine, predicated upon outmoded and obsolete notions of scarcity of electronic media outlets, may in fact contravene important Constitutional principles by restricting the First Amendment Rights of broadcasters. The President believes the federal government has no business injecting itself into the editorial discretion and judgments of broadcast journalists.

I trust you will find the attached materials to be of interest. I look forward to reading your editorials and columns on this subject.

Sincerely,



Thomas F. Gibson III
Special Assistant to the President and
Director of Public Affairs

4/21/87

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

517220

1110

LT001-01

LT001

Jim Hooley: FY

Elizabeth Board will
be calling you about a
satellite TV idea. Any
assistance you + your
staff can give her would
be appreciated.

Thank



517464

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

4690

UT001-01

LE002

FG006-01

June 24, 1987

EX PY

Dear Ms. Prohovich:

On Saturday, June 20, the President vetoed S. 742, the Fairness in Broadcasting Act of 1987. For your information, I am enclosing the President's veto statement.

The "fairness doctrine" does not promote, but actually inhibits its stated purpose: the free and open discussion of controversial and important public issues. The doctrine, predicated upon outmoded and obsolete notions of scarcity of electronic media outlets, may in fact contravene important Constitutional principles by restricting the First Amendment Rights of broadcasters. The President believes the federal government has no business injecting itself into the editorial discretion and judgements of broadcast journalists.

The President has heard from many leaders in your industry and looks forward to reading your editorials and columns on this subject. Please let my office know if you need additional information on the President's position.

- Refer to Elizabeth Board

Sincerely,



Thomas C. Griscom
Assistant to the President
for Communications and Planning

Ms. Laura M. Prohovich
Economics and Technology, Inc.
101 Tremont Street
Boston, MA 02108

Dg

**WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET**

- O - OUTGOING
- H - INTERNAL
- I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 1/1

Name of Correspondent: Norman E. Reynolds

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: CWA vs. Beck; fairness doctrine; promotion of Sam Donaldson

| ROUTE TO: | | ACTION | | DISPOSITION | |
|------------------|--------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Office/Agency | (Staff Name) | Action Code | Tracking Date YY/MM/DD | Type of Response | Completion Date YY/MM/DD |
| <u>cuhole</u> | | ORIGINATOR | <u>87,07,29</u> | <u>FY</u> | <u>87,08,04</u> |
| <u>cuat (26)</u> | | Referral Note: <u>R</u> | <u>87,08,02</u> | <u>FY CC</u> | <u>87,08,04</u> |
| | | Referral Note: | <u>1 1</u> | | <u>1 1</u> |
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| | | Referral Note: | <u>1 1</u> | | <u>1 1</u> |

- ACTION CODES:**
- A - Appropriate Action
 - C - Comment/Recommendation
 - D - Draft Response
 - F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure
 - I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
 - R - Direct Reply w/Copy
 - S - For Signature
 - X - Interim Reply
- DISPOSITION CODES:**
- A - Answered
 - B - Non-Special Referral
 - C - Completed
 - S - Suspended

FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:
 Type of Response = Initials of Signer
 Code = "A"
 Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: _____

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Prime Subject Code: HT 001-01 Secondary Subject Codes: _____

PRESIDENTIAL REPLY

| Code | Date | Comment | Form |
|------|-------|-------------|--------------|
| C | _____ | Time: _____ | P- _____ |
| DSP | _____ | Time: _____ | Media: _____ |

SIGNATURE CODES:

- CPn - Presidential Correspondence**
 - n - 0 - Unknown
 - n - 1 - Ronald Wilson Reagan
 - n - 2 - Ronald Reagan
 - n - 3 - Ron
 - n - 4 - Dutch
 - n - 5 - Ron Reagan
 - n - 6 - Ronald
 - n - 7 - Ronnie

- CLn - First Lady's Correspondence**
 - n - 0 - Unknown
 - n - 1 - Nancy Reagan
 - n - 2 - Nancy
 - n - 3 - Mrs. Ronald Reagan

- CBn - Presidential & First Lady's Correspondence**
 - n - 1 - Ronald Reagan - Nancy Reagan
 - n - 2 - Ron - Nancy

MEDIA CODES:

- B - Box/package
- C - Copy
- D - Official document
- G - Message
- H - Handcarried
- L - Letter
- M - Mailgram
- O - Memo
- P - Photo
- R - Report
- S - Sealed
- T - Telegram
- V - Telephone
- X - Miscellaneous
- Y - Study

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 4, 1987

Dear Mr. Reynolds:

Thank you for your letter dated July 21, 1987, addressed to the President, concerning the Administration's position on the use of compulsory union dues and fees for political purposes, and on the so-called "fairness doctrine." Because your letter involves legal issues, the President has asked me to respond.

Your letter indicates that your concerns were prompted in part by media coverage of the Justice Department's friend-of-the-court brief in Beck v. Communications Workers of America. That brief was jointly filed by the National Labor Relations Board, whose General Counsel, Rosemary Collyer, participated in its preparation.

Despite what may appear from news accounts of Beck, the issues this case raises are many--involving not only the Administration's support for protections against the use of compulsory dues and fees for partisan political purposes, but also its commitment to strict construction of the Constitution and federal statutes. The Department of Justice made a difficult choice to vindicate a strictly limited view of "state action" under the Constitution, and a strict construction of the particular federal statute involved consistent with its legislative history, when it filed the Beck brief. For your information, I have also enclosed a copy of a recently published interview with Solicitor General Fried. At pages 50-51, he explains his actions in the Beck case.

You may rest assured that, while the Solicitor General's decision in this case was based on technical legal grounds unrelated to the broad policy goal of preventing the use of compulsory union dues and fees for political purposes, the President remains firmly committed to the Republican Party's platform planks in both 1980 and 1984. He supports the rights of states to enact right-to-work laws, and opposes the use of compulsory dues and fees for political purposes. This Administration has and will continue to support vigorously the nation's free enterprise system and the political freedom of every worker.

Your letter also inquired concerning pending legislation on the so-called "fairness doctrine." This doctrine, which has evolved through the decisional process of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), requires federal officials to supervise the editorial practices of broadcasters in an effort to ensure that they provide coverage of controversial issues and a reasonable opportunity for the airing of contrasting viewpoints on those issues.

The President's veto of S. 742, which would have codified this doctrine in law, was not based on a disagreement with the principle that broadcasters should be fair in covering all sides of controversial issues. Rather, it was based on his conviction that content-based regulation of the media by the federal government is antagonistic to the freedom of expression guaranteed by the First Amendment.

In any other medium besides broadcasting, such federal policing of the editorial judgment of journalists would be unthinkable. The framers of the First Amendment, confident that public debate would be freer and healthier without the kind of interference represented by the "fairness doctrine," chose to forbid such regulations in the clearest terms: "Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press." More recently, the United States Supreme Court, in striking down a right-of-access statute that applied to newspapers, spoke of the statute's intrusion into the function of the editorial process and concluded that "[i]t has yet to be demonstrated how governmental regulation of this crucial process can be exercised consistent with First Amendment guarantees of a free press as they have evolved to this time." Miami Herald Publishing Co. v. Tornillo, 418 U.S. 241, 258 (1974).

The President's veto message acknowledged that 18 years ago, in Red Lion Broadcasting Co. v. FCC, 395 U.S. 367 (1969), the Supreme Court indicated that the fairness doctrine as then applied to a far less technologically advanced broadcast industry did not contravene the First Amendment. But, the President went on to point out, the Red Lion decision was based on the theory that usable broadcast frequencies were then so inherently scarce that government regulation of broadcasters was inevitable. It was in this light that the FCC's "fairness doctrine" seemed to be a reasonable means of promoting diverse and vigorous debate of controversial issues.

The Supreme Court indicated in Red Lion a willingness to reconsider the appropriateness of the fairness doctrine if it in fact reduced, rather than enhanced, broadcast coverage. In a later case, the Court acknowledged the changes in the technological and economic environment in which broadcasters operate. It may now be fairly concluded that the growth in the number of available media outlets does indeed outweigh whatever justifications may have seemed to exist at the period during which the doctrine was developed.

The FCC itself has concluded that the doctrine is an unnecessary and detrimental regulatory mechanism. After a massive study of the effects of its own rule, the FCC found in 1985 that the recent explosion in the number of new information sources such as cable television has clearly made the so-called "fairness doctrine" unnecessary. Furthermore, the FCC found that the doctrine in fact inhibits broadcasters from presenting controversial issues of public importance, and thus defeats its own purpose.

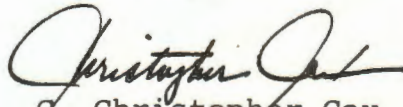
Quite apart from the impact of technological advances, the President stated in his veto message, attention must be paid to the obvious intent of the First Amendment to promote vigorous public debate and a diversity of viewpoints in the public forum as a whole--not just in a particular medium, or a particular journalistic outlet. History has shown that the dangers of an overly timid or biased press cannot be averted through bureaucratic regulation, but only through the freedom of expression and competition of ideas that the First Amendment sought to guarantee.

The President vetoed S. 742 because it simply cannot be reconciled with the freedom of speech and the press secured by the Constitution. It would, in short, be unconstitutional. Well-intentioned as the so-called "fairness doctrine" legislation may be, it would be inconsistent with the First Amendment and with the American tradition of independent journalism.

Finally--speaking of independent journalism--you suggested that the President no longer favor Sam Donaldson with initial questions at news conferences. That is a distinctly non-legal matter, and I have therefore been pleased to pass your observation on to the President, who alone may know how best to tackle that one.

I hope that the foregoing information is useful to you. Your courtesy and interest in writing are very much appreciated.

Sincerely,



C. Christopher Cox
Senior Associate Counsel
to the President

Enclosure

Norman E. Reynolds, Esq.
Reynolds, Ridings & Hargis
2808 First National Center
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102

39

518278 CU

REYNOLDS, RIDINGS & HARGIS

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

2808 FIRST NATIONAL CENTER

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73102

NORMAN E. REYNOLDS, SR. (1888-1953)
W. OTIS RIDINGS (1899-1970)
NORMAN E. REYNOLDS
V. BURNS HARGIS
JAMES W. VOGT
FRED MORGAN
ROSS A. PLOURDE
DAVID W. EARMAN

TELEPHONE
(405) 232-8131

TELECOPY NUMBER
(405) 232-7911

July 21, 1987

A. B. C. WHITEHOUSE

The Honorable Ronald Reagan
The Whitehouse
Washington, D.C.

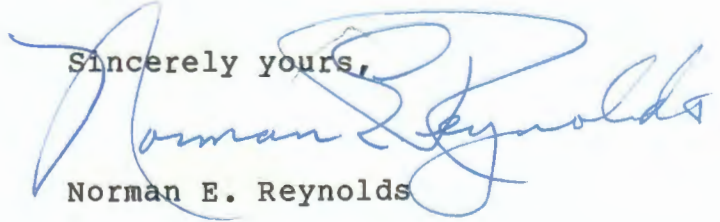
Dear President Reagan:

I have been a strong supporter of yours in almost everything you have done. I know that you have been terribly harrassed by the media and with the myriad of problems you confront hourly, it appears that some of your supporters have taken actions that are contrary to your beliefs, as follows:

1. Brock, Collyer and Schlossberg at Labor are torpedoing your program to support the individual. Their brief in the C.W.A. v. Beck case in the United States Supreme Court appears to be diametrically opposed to everything you stand for or stood for when you were elected.

2. It is hoped that when the fairness doctrine legislation comes back to you that you will see fit to support it. The way that you have been mistreated by the elitist national media is proof the national media is not only biased but uniformly biased against conservatives. They don't believe in telling the conservative side (Colonel North's testimony had to be the first time many people heard the Nicaraguan problem clearly.). Reliance on Walter Cronkite's ideas is like relying on Gorbechev for arms reduction. We people admire you in spite of all the efforts to destroy you the national media promote.

I would also respectfully suggest that you quit promoting Sam Donaldson, et al. with initial questions at your news conferences. Why not give some of the more objective reporters a fair shot?

Sincerely yours,

Norman E. Reynolds

NER:je

518559

4620

UT001-01

LE

7R005-01

July 29, 1987

TR

Dear Mr. Deushane:

Well, I never thought I'd hear from you again. Believe me, I accept your apology and thanks for your note. I'm delighted to have this opportunity to send best wishes to you.

Sincerely,

A

RONALD REAGAN

Mr. John C. Deushane

KRCG

Post Office Box 659

Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

P.S. Just so you know your really forgiven I thought I would send you the enclosed.

RR:AVH:pps

✓ Encl: Inscribed RR Photo

870729

~~regarding the President withholding
approval for S. 748~~



KRCG

Post Office Box 659
Jefferson City, Mo. 65102
(314) 896-5144

JOHN C. DEUSHANE
Vice President
and General Manager

A. M. Richard

*Jim
d*

June 30, 1987

Mr. Ronald Reagan
The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As a brief introduction, I'm the guy who spilled a cup of hot water in your lap while you were taping your election eve speech to the nation in 1980. This occurred when my career found me at WEEK-TV in Peoria as a producer/director.

Now, as a general manager in Jefferson City, Missouri, I wanted to thank you for your decision in withholding approval for S.742. To the statements you've already made on behalf of broadcasters I can only add one thing...thanks.

Please also accept my belated apologies for the water mishap so many years ago.

Best regards,

John C. Deushane
Vice President and
General Manager

JCD/lt

A CBS affiliate

TWX: 1-910-760-2923
Owned and Operated by
Price Communications Corporation

October 2, 1987

Dear Mstislav:

In answer to your letter about the proposed radio transmitter in Israel, we are still determined to do that. We have, however, been faced with what I hope will turn out to be only a temporary delay.

The Congress spendthrift in so many ways cut the State Department and all foreign spending back for the coming year. This cut included the transmitter. The State Department is planning to seek a supplemental appropriation early next year, and I'm hopeful it will be approved and that we can go forward with our plans. I assure you I'll keep after this.

Nancy sends her regards.

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN

Maestro Mstislav Rostropovich
National Symphony Orchestra
John F. Kennedy Center
for the Performing Arts
Washington, D.C. 20566

RR:AVH:pps

RR Dictation

Label reads: Attn: Nadya Efremov

See: TD 475267

871005

HANDWRITING FILE

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IT011

Mstislav Rostropovich

Dear Mstislav

In answer to your letter about the proposed radio transmitter in Israel; we are still determined to do that. We have, however been faced with what I hope will turn out to be only a temporary delay.

The Congress ~~is~~ spendthrift in ^{so} many ways cut the State Dept. & all foreign spending back for the coming year. This cut included the ~~transmitter~~ transmitter. The State Dept. is planning to seek a supplemental appropriation early next year and I'm hopeful it will be approved & that we can go forward with our plans. I assure you I'll ~~not~~ keep after this.

Marcy sends her regards.

Sincerely RR

MSTISLAV ROSTROPOVICH

OK to mail
cut

September 25, 1987

My dear Mr. President,

First, I would like to thank you for your answer to my letter regarding Igor Ogurtsov.

Although I have spent 13 years in the West, after having been exiled by the Soviet government, I continue to worry about the fate of my people. Therefore, I have used every opportunity to underline my delight with your direct and clear policies vis-a-vis the Soviet Union.

I have learned that you have initiated a joint project between the government of Isreal and Voice of America, Radio Free Europe/ Radio Liberty to build a new transmitter station in Isreal. I understand that you were present at the signing ceremony in June. Now, to my great disappointment, this project is in danger of being delayed. Are you aware of this?

As always, but especially lately, I have followed very carefully the developments in the USSR. I am happy and encouraged by the changes instituted by Mr. Gorbachev. However, these are but the first tentative steps. The danger always exists that he might stop here and go no further in implementing his ideas -- or, what is even more dangerous, he will be replaced as was Nikita Khrushchev; or simply annihilated.

In any case, the people of the USSR must be free to listen to the voice of the American people and to hear the President. If the Soviet Union moves further toward democratization, how pleasant it would be for the Russian people to hear the congratulations of the American President. If, on the other hand, there were a sudden change in the Soviet government and we do not experience the expected thaw, then we will have a Siberian winter! If the treaties and agreements signed by the Soviet government are not being honored, how will 260 million Soviet citizens learn of the breaches? These are people who still represent an enormous, but blind, power.

If this transmitter station is not built during your Administration I am afraid it will never be built and we will lose the vital opportunity to enhance our contact with the people of the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

Please excuse my interference in definitely non-musical affairs. I am driven by my consience and by my love for the people of

MSTISLAV ROSTROPOVICH

both our countries.

As always, with deep respect and affection,

Yours
Mstislav

Mstislav Rostropovich

P.S. Please give Nancy my deepest love and respect. I will never forget all the fantastically good things that you and Nancy have done for me and my family. I pray for your well-being and good health.

MOR

MSTISLAV ROSTROPOVICH
c/o NADYA EFREMOV
NATIONAL SYMPHONY/KENNEDY
CENTER
WASH. D.C. 20566



U.S. National Archives & Records Administration

Current Status Details for CTRH RECID: 524547 MAIN SUBCODE: UT001

| | |
|----------------|------------------------------|
| Current Status | Open |
| User Name | dbarrie |
| Status Date | 2018-08-22 |
| Case Number | F1148/F01-001 |
| Notes | 7 p. Transferred to UT001-01 |

[Change Status](#)

[Close Window](#)

Review Status History

| No. | Status | Date | User | Case Number | Notes |
|-----|--------|------------|---------|---------------|------------------------------|
| 1 | Open | 2018-08-22 | dbarrie | F1148/F01-001 | 7 p. Transferred to UT001-01 |
| 2 | Open | 2008-05-12 | mking | | |

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

UT001

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: OCTOBER 29, 1987

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. EDWARD O. FRITTS

SUBJECT: CONCERNS REGARDING THE FAIRNESS DOCTRINE

| ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) | ACTION | | DISPOSITION | |
|---|----------|---------------|-------------|------------------------|
| | ACT CODE | DATE YY/MM/DD | TYPE RESP | C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD |
| HOWARD BAKER | ORG | 87/10/29 | | C 87/11/02 TR |
| <i>Co Cama</i> | A | 87/11/02 | | C 87/11/20 |
| <i>99 OMB/atten Jim Miller</i> | D | 87/11/02 | CSAKL | 87/11/19 |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

W/S
CJ

COMMENTS: OMB draft resp.

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: _____ MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____
CS MAIL USER CODES: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

- *****
- | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|
| *ACTION CODES: | *DISPOSITION | *OUTGOING | * |
| * | * | *CORRESPONDENCE: | * |
| *A-APPROPRIATE ACTION | *A-ANSWERED | *TYPE RESP=INITIALS | * |
| *C-COMMENT/RECOM | *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL | * OF SIGNER | * |
| *D-DRAFT RESPONSE | *C-COMPLETED | * CODE = A | * |
| *F-FURNISH FACT SHEET | *S-SUSPENDED | *COMPLETED = DATE OF | * |
| *I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC | | * OUTGOING | * |
| *R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY | | | * |
| *S-FOR-SIGNATURE | | | * |
| *X-INTERIM REPLY | | | * |
- *****

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
(ROOM 75,OEOb) EXT-2590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

COCAAMA

19 NOV 1987

Mr. Edward O. Fritts
President & CEO
National Association of Broadcasters
1771 N Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. Fritts:

This letter is in response to your recent correspondence to Howard Baker and myself regarding the Senate Commerce Committee legislation which would codify the Fairness Doctrine and impose a two percent transfer fee on the sale of communications licenses.

As you mentioned, President Reagan vetoed the earlier legislation codifying the Fairness Doctrine. The Administration continues to believe that broadcasters should be afforded their full first amendment rights and we oppose this effort to codify the Doctrine.

The Administration strongly objects to the re-regulation of the broadcast anti-trafficking rule that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) eliminated during this Administration, as well as other efforts Congress has taken to reimpose regulation on the communications industry.

Additionally, upon initial review of the proposed transfer fee, we are not enthusiastic about this "tax" on the communications industry. We are also concerned that this proposal has not received full Administration review or congressional hearings, which a proposal such as this warrants.

As you know, the Administration proposed legislation to allow the FCC to allocate non-broadcast licenses by use of auctions. We appreciate your support of this measure. We believe auctions to be a better method than the existing lotteries and comparative hearings process for allocating licenses. It would also be a better method for raising revenues, which is the intent of the Senate Commerce Committee transfer tax legislation.

Thank you for your continued support of the Administration's goals. In particular, I appreciate the broadcast industry's commitment to fight the codification of the Fairness Doctrine.

Sincerely yours,

JAMES C. MILLER III

James C. Miller III
Director

C:
Official file
DO Records (OMB #026558 & #026597)
WH Liaison #524547
DO Chron
Dep. Director
Legis. Affairs
Mr. Muris
Mr. Tupper
Ms. Crawford
Mr. Schwartz
Mr. Adkins
Ret. E. Flynn

TCJ:EFlynn:dsa 11/5/87

#3
Adkins

11/04/87

OMB CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM
CORRESPONDENT CONTROL SHEET

HANDLING: REGULAR

OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 026597

CORRESPONDENT: PRESIDENT & CEO EDWARD FRITTS
AFFILIATION: NAB

SUBJECT: OPPOSITION, PROPOSED, LEGISLATION, COMMUNICATION, INDUSTR

LEAD TO: TCJ

CROSS REFERENCE:
INFO COPIES:

SHORT SUMMARY OF MATERIAL

OMB Director Miller received identical letter from CEO Fritts and has responded via the attached draft to Fritts.

HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS

RESPONSE DUE BY 11/13/87
PREPARE DRAFT REPLY
COPY OF RESPONSE AND ORIGINAL INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE TO
WHITE HOUSE LIAISON, ROOM 91. PUT THE WHITE HOUSE AND
OMB CONTROL NUMBERS ON ALL COPIES.

DRAFT REPLY FOR SIGNATURE OF HOWARD BAKER

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------|---------|
| | PREPARED | CLEARED | CLEARED | CLEARED | CLEARED | CLEARED | CLEARED | CLEARED |
| NAME AND DIVISION | Flynn TCJ | Adkins TCJ | Schwartz TCJ | Frey LR | Crawford E&G | Wheeler LA | Dir. Ofc. | |
| INITIALS AND DATE | | | | | | | | |

OMB
RECEIVED

87 NOV 4 11:59

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

REFERRAL

NOVEMBER 4, 1987

TO: OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
ATTN: JAMES MILLER

ACTION REQUESTED:

DRAFT REPLY FOR SIGNATURE OF:
HOWARD BAKER

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 524547

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED OCTOBER 28, 1987

TO: HOWARD BAKER

FROM: MR. EDWARD O. FRITTS
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE
OFFICER
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
BROADCASTERS
1771 N STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON DC 20036

SUBJECT: CONCERNS REGARDING THE FAIRNESS DOCTRINE

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE
(OR DRAFT) TO:
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE, 20500

SALLY KELLEY
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

LS980



Edward O. Fritts

President & CEO
1771 N Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 429-5444
Telex: 350-085

October 28, 1987

The Honorable Howard Baker
Chief of Staff to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Senator Baker:

I would like to bring to your attention several issues which are of great importance to American broadcasters and to the American public. On Wednesday, October 21, the Senate Commerce Committee reported Budget Reconciliation legislation. The Committee, on extremely short notice and without notice or hearing, reported out legislation dealing with the Fairness Doctrine and the ability of American broadcasters to sell their broadcast stations.

As you recall, in June of this year, President Reagan vetoed legislation codifying the Fairness Doctrine. Then, in August, the Federal Communications Commission repealed the Doctrine because, in their view, it was an unconstitutional abridgement of radio and television broadcasters' First Amendment rights. The Senate Commerce Committee's proposed legislation includes another codification of the Fairness Doctrine. Broadcasters continue to believe that the Fairness Doctrine is unconstitutional. We will continue our efforts to block codification of the doctrine by the Congress. We urge your continued support and the support of the President to prevent codification of the Fairness Doctrine.

The Senate Commerce Committee's proposed legislation would also impose a two percent transfer fee on the sale of communications licenses, including broadcast licenses. The fee would be calculated on the sales price or the fair market value of the license whichever is greater. Also, for broadcast licensees alone a four percent fee would be imposed if the license were held less than three years. Finally, the legislation would impose an additional one percent fee upon broadcast licensees who had violated the Fairness Doctrine during their ownership of the station. We believe such a transfer fee as proposed by the Senate Commerce Committee raises procedural, political, and constitutional issues.

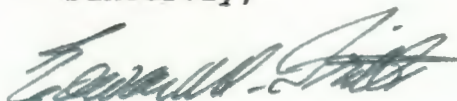
Initially, we view the transfer fee as nothing more than a tax, because its sole purpose is to raise money. Broadcasters already "pay" for their use of the spectrum by the public interest programming and public service programming they provide to the American public. Broadcasters already pay fees for license transfers that are based on the FCC's cost of processing these applications. Congress imposed these fees only a few years ago, and the Senate now proposes to charge broadcasters a fee that bears no relationship whatever to the cost of processing these transfers. In this respect, the Senate Commerce Committee has no jurisdiction to impose taxes of any kind. Taxes are within the jurisdiction of the Finance Committee and should be considered by that Committee only after a full hearing, which was not the case here. We are deeply concerned that such a tax would have a devastating impact upon marginal AM and UHF stations throughout the country. Finally, the four percent tax on stations held less than three years amounts to nothing more than a reimposition of the FCC's anti-trafficking rule. That rule which, in effect, prohibited the sale of broadcast licenses held less than three years was repealed by the FCC several years ago after full opportunity for public comment, review by the FCC, and court review.

Turning to the legal issues, we believe that a tax on radio users and an additional tax on broadcasters is discriminatory in nature and raises serious questions under the First Amendment and the "equal protection" provisions of the United States Constitution. These taxes single out broadcasters for special taxation.

The additional one percent transfer penalty for stations found in violation of the Fairness Doctrine adds significantly to the already substantial "chilling" effect of the Doctrine. If this tax is imposed, no station will ever dare to cover issues that may be controversial. Listeners and viewers would be denied news and information about the issues that affect their daily lives. We also believe that such a penalty could be construed as a tax on speech, and therefore unconstitutional.

As you can see, broadcasters are justifiably concerned about this proposed legislation. We believe that such legislation could have a profound adverse impact upon the American system of broadcasting and upon the ability of the American public to receive information. We urge your support in defeating this proposed legislation. If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to give me a call.

Sincerely,





U.S. National Archives & Records Administration

Current Status Details for CTRH RECID: 527477 MAIN SUBCODE: FG006-01

| | |
|----------------|---------------------------------|
| Current Status | Open |
| User Name | dbarrie |
| Status Date | 2017-09-29 |
| Case Number | S09-236 |
| Notes | • 10 p. Transferred to UT001-01 |

[Change Status](#)

[Close Window](#)

Review Status History

| No. | Status | Date | User | Case Number | Notes |
|-----|--------|------------|-----------|-------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Open | 2017-09-29 | dbarrie | S09-236 | 10 p. Transferred to UT001-01 |
| 2 | Open | 2017-09-29 | dbarrie | S09-236 | 10 p. |
| 3 | Open | 2011-03-23 | KUlrich | S09-236 | |
| 4 | None | 2010-09-13 | dbarrie | | |
| 5 | None | 2010-09-13 | dbarrie | | |
| 6 | Open | 2010-09-13 | mking | | |
| 7 | Open | 2010-09-13 | dbarrie | | |
| 8 | None | 2010-09-08 | swilliams | | |
| 9 | None | 2010-09-08 | swilliams | | |
| 10 | None | 2010-09-08 | dbarrie | | |
| 11 | Open | 2010-07-14 | KUlrich | S09-236 | |

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

FG006-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: NOVEMBER 09, 1987

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. WARD L. QUAAL

SUBJECT: CONCERNS REGARDING THE FAIRNESS DOCTRINE

| ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) | ACTION | | DISPOSITION | |
|---|-------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| | ACT CODE | DATE YY/MM/DD | TYPE RESP | C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD |
| HOWARD BAKER | ORG | 87/11/09 | HB | A 87/11/09 |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____ | | | | |
| LORRAINE CAMARANO | RSA | 87/11/09 | | 87/11/09 |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____ | | | | |
| OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET | RAD | 87/11/09 | CSBAK1 | 87/11/23 |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____ | | | | |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____ | | | | |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____ | | | | |

COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

CS MAIL USER CODES: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

- *****
- | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|
| *ACTION CODES: | *DISPOSITION | *OUTGOING | * |
| * | * | *CORRESPONDENCE: | * |
| *A-APPROPRIATE ACTION | *A-ANSWERED | *TYPE RESP=INITIALS | * |
| *C-COMMENT/RECOM | *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL | * OF SIGNER | * |
| *D-DRAFT RESPONSE | *C-COMPLETED | * CODE = A | * |
| *F-FURNISH FACT SHEET | *S-SUSPENDED | *COMPLETED = DATE OF | * |
| *I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC* | | * OUTGOING | * |
| *R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * | | * | * |
| *S-FOR-SIGNATURE | * | * | * |
| *X-INTERIM REPLY | * | * | * |
- *****

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

December 22, 1987

Dear Ward:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning the new proposal to modify the "fairness doctrine" and impose a transfer fee on the sale of commercial broadcasting stations.

As you know, the President's position on this matter could not be more clear. He feels strongly that any effort by the Federal government to set the content of broadcasting along the lines of the fairness doctrine is not only unwise, but unconstitutional. Competition, not government regulation, is ultimately the surest guarantor of fairness. For these reasons, the President vetoed the "Fairness in Broadcasting Act" passed by Congress earlier this year.

The Federal Communications Commission subsequently voted to repeal the administrative regulations which imposed the fairness doctrine, and the legislative proposal you referred to in your letter has been deleted from the Senate bill to which it had initially been attached. These actions represent, I believe, a growing realization that our broadcast media can be both free and fair.

This is a very significant issue, and one of great importance to this Administration. Thank you for writing to me and expressing your views on this subject.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Ward L. Quaal
President
The Ward L. Quaal Company
Suite 3140
401 North Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60611

HHB/ABC:CAD:ds 12HHBB

cc: Lorraine Camarano - Rm. 61 - OEOB

COCAMIA ✓

WH Liaison
A-Wheeler

NOV 23 1987

Mr. Ward L. Quaal
President
The Ward L. Quaal Company
401 North Michigan Avenue
Suite 3140
Chicago, IL 60611

Dear Ward:

Thank you for your letter of October 30~~th~~. The Administration is troubled ^{by} with the legislation that ~~Fritz Hollings~~ has reported out ~~of~~ the Senate Commerce Committee ^{as} part of the reconciliation bill, and ^(we are) ~~is~~ adamantly opposed to ^{Senator} the ^{Hollings?} continued effort to codify the Fairness Doctrine.

As you mentioned, the proposed transfer fee unfairly penalizes the broadcast community and re-institutes the anti-trafficking rule ^{the} that Federal Communications Commission (FCC) eliminated during this Administration.

Regarding the merits of the proposed transfer fee, the Administration is extremely concerned that this proposal has not ^{the} received full Administration review or congressional hearings, ^{such a proposal warrants.} which ~~a proposal~~ such as this warrants. The transfer fee would unfairly tax the broadcasting industry and ~~does not appear to be~~ ^{contrary to} ~~in~~ the public interest.

As you may know, the Administration ^{has} proposed legislation to allow the FCC to allocate non-broadcast licenses by use of auctions. We believe auctions to be a better method than the ~~existing~~ lotteries and comparative hearings process ^{currently used} ~~for~~ ^{to} allocating licenses. Auctions would also be a better method for raising revenues, which is the primary intent of ^{Senator} Hollings' proposed transfer fee legislation.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 15, 1987

MEMORANDUM FOR BARBARA RIEGNER
HOWARD BAKER'S CORRESPONDENCE

FROM: ARTHUR B. CULVAHOUSE, JR. *ABC*
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Correspondence from Mr. Ward Quaal

As requested by your memorandum of December 3, 1987, Counsel's Office has reviewed the proposed draft response to the letter from Mr. Ward Quaal concerning the effort by Senator Hollings to codify the Fairness Doctrine. We held on to the letter in order to await final action on the Hollings proposal. That proposal has now been deleted from the Senate bill, and we have redrafted the proposed letter in order to reflect this. A copy of our suggested response is attached.

Attachment

Chuck -

12/17/87

Counsel re-wrote the
entire Ward Quaal letter.
Should I re-clear w/ORD?

Yes...man it
along.
ABC

Barbara

OFFICE OF HOWARD BAKER'S CORRESPONDENCE
REQUEST FOR CLEARANCE - COMMENTS

TO: *Mike Driggs*
OPD

DATE DUE: *ASAP*

TYPE OF RESPONSE: Multiple Mailing Form Reply One-Time Reply

SUBJECT: *Approval of attached draft*

REQUESTED BY/ADDRESSED TO: *Howard Baker / Ward Quaal*

BACKGROUND: *Codification of the Fairness Doctrine*
(Draft also being cleared thru Counsel's office)

SIGNATURE: *Barbara Regier*

DATE: *Dec. 3, 1987*

Howard Baker's Correspondence
Old Executive Office Building
Room 61
(202) 456-6600

Your Recommendation/Comments:

OK
made
12-3

SIGNATURE:

DATE:

cc for
TYPING

Dear Ward:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning the new proposal to codify the "fairness doctrine" and impose a transfer fee on the sale of commercial broadcasting stations.

As you know, the President's position on this matter could not be more clear. He feels strongly that any effort by the federal government to set the content of broadcasting along the lines of the fairness doctrine is not only unwise, but unconstitutional. Competition, not government regulation, is ultimately the surest guarantor of fairness. For these reasons, the President vetoed the "Fairness in Broadcasting Act" passed by Congress earlier this year.

The Federal Communications Commission subsequently voted to repeal the administrative regulations which imposed the fairness doctrine, and the legislative proposal you referred to in your letter has been deleted from the Senate bill to which it had initially been attached. These actions represent, I believe, a growing realization that our broadcast media can be both free and fair.

This is a ^{very} highly significant issue, and one of great ~~im~~ importance to this Administration. Thank you for writing to me and expressing your views on this subject.

Sincerely yours,

Howard H. Baker

HAB/ABC/caw

I appreciate your interest in opposing the proposed transfer fee legislation and would gladly welcome any suggestions you might have to ^{help us defeat} discourage this proposal.

~~#With best wishes,~~ Warm regards.
Sincerely yours,

Howard Baker

HHB/OMB/lc/000

c:
Official file (#026662)
WH Liaison #527477 (Rm. 91)
DO Records
DO Chron
Dep. Director
Legis. Affairs
Mr. Tupper
Mr. Muris
Ms. Crawford
Mr. Schwartz
Mr. Adkins
Ret. E. Flynn

TCJ:EFlynn:dsa 11/19/87 [170,10, #98]

OMB
RECEIVED

37 NOV 13 P 5: 02

T H E W H I T E H O U S E O F F I C E

REFERRAL PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE UNIT

NOVEMBER 11, 1987

TO: OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

ACTION REQUESTED:

DRAFT REPLY FOR SIGNATURE OF:
HOWARD BAKER

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: - 527477

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED OCTOBER 30, 1987

TO: HOWARD BAKER

FROM: MR. WARD L. QUAAL
PRESIDENT
THE WARD L. QUAAL COMPANY
SUITE 3140
401 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE
CHICAGO IL 60611

SUBJECT: CONCERNS REGARDING THE FAIRNESS DOCTRINE

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE
(OR DRAFT) TO:
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE, 20500

SALLY KELLEY
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

026662

OMB
For draft resp.*The Ward L. Duval Company**401 North Michigan Avenue**Suite 3140**Chicago, Illinois 60611**Ward L. Duval*
*President**Telephone*
*312/644-6066*October 30, 1987
Dict. 10/29/87VIA FEDERAL EXPRESSThe Chief of Staff to
The President of the United States
The Honorable Howard Baker
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Howard:

In the course of our reviewing a number of matters by telephone the other evening, there was not time to address the latest "tomfoolery" by Fritz Hollings to put the so-called Fairness Doctrine into codified form by incorporating it within a catchall spending bill, the continuing budget resolution.

In addition to using this approach to negate the wise decision of President Reagan in vetoing the initial codification effort of the Congress, Fritz plans to apply a transfer tax to the sale of radio and television stations.

As I think you know, his proposal would place a two percent tax on the price involving the sale of all radio and television properties (and other licensed activities, as well) if they have been held a minimum of three years. In the event of a sale short of three years' time, the assessment would be at four percent. Concurrently, Howard, if a licensee violated the Fairness Doctrine, and that property was in the process of being sold, the seller would be assessed another one percent "penalty" charge.

Years ago, I had great respect for Fritz Hollings, because he seemed to be a rather sound Southern gentleman and a conservative, at least insofar as the Democratic Party is concerned. This latest move on his part is one of a series of steps which he has pursued or is pursuing that is not in the public interest, that is grossly unfair to the broadcasting profession, and above all else, in the final analysis, Howard, injurious to the people of America.

Los Angeles, California 213/277-9399

The Honorable Howard Baker
October 30, 1987
Page two

As to the tax proposal, regardless of the size of the figures involved, I feel any court would find these steps, as suggested, as being thoroughly "unconstitutional."

I would like to discuss this latest Hollings proposal with you if your schedule would so permit, Howard.

Warmest personal regards.

Respectfully yours,

Ward/rlc

Ward L. Quaal

WLQ/rlc