

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3663

To require the Federal Communications Commission to provide for a short-term extension of the analog television broadcasting authority so that essential public safety announcements and digital television transition information may be provided for a short time during the transition to digital television broadcasting.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 1 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 17), 2008

Mr. ROCKEFELLER 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 provide for a short-term extension of the analog television broadcasting authority so that essential public safety announcements and digital television transition information may be provided for a short time during the transition to digital television broadcasting.

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 “Short-term Analog
5 Flash and Emergency Readiness Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. COMMISSION ACTION REQUIRED.**

2 (a) PROGRAM REQUIRED.—Notwithstanding any
3 other provision of law, the Federal Communications Com-
4 mission shall, not later than January 15, 2009, develop
5 and implement a program to encourage and permit, to the
6 extent technically feasible, the continued broadcasting in
7 the analog television service of the public safety informa-
8 tion and digital transition information specified in sub-
9 section (b) during the 30-day period beginning February
10 18, 2009, subject to such limitations as the Commission
11 finds to be consistent with the public interest and the re-
12 quirements of this Act.

13 (b) INFORMATION REQUIRED.—The program re-
14 quired by subsection (a) shall provide for the broadcast
15 of—

16 (1) emergency information, including critical
17 details regarding the emergency, as carried or re-
18 quired to be carried by full-power stations in the
19 digital television service;

20 (2) information, in both English and Spanish,
21 and accessible to persons with disabilities, con-
22 cerning—

23 (A) the digital television transition, includ-
24 ing the fact that a transition has taken place
25 and that additional action is required to con-

1 tinue receiving television service, including
2 emergency notifications; and

3 (B) the steps required to enable viewers to
4 receive such emergency information via the dig-
5 ital television service and to convert to receiving
6 digital television service, including a phone
7 number and Internet address by which help
8 with such transition may be obtained in both
9 English and Spanish; and

10 (3) such other information as the Commission
11 may find to be consistent with the public interest.

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