



**LPTV
SPECTRUM
RIGHTS
COALITION**

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THE LPTV SPECTRUM RIGHTS COALITION WARNS FCC-LICENSED LPTV OWNERS, INVESTORS, AND THE NETWORKS THEY CARRY, THAT THE NEW HOUSE COMMERCE BILL INTRODUCED BY TEXAS CONGRESSMAN BARTON (LPTV PRESERVATION ACT OF 2014) COULD ACTUALLY ERODE THEIR SPECTRUM USAGE RIGHTS AND ASSIST IN ELIMINATING MANY LPTV STATIONS ENTIRELY IN THE 2015 INCENTIVE SPECTRUM AUCTION

[Bill](#) and [Hearing](#):

[Coalition Commentary on the Bill](#)

- Coalition is concerned that the Bill gives new sweeping powers to the FCC to make a determination if an LPTV licensee should be granted the opportunity to get a new license and channel post-auction, where as those rights were guaranteed in the 2012 Spectrum Auction Act
- Coalition is concerned that the Bill does not address the most pressing problems caused by the 2012 Act, which are: 1) the \$1 billion unfunded mandate on LPTV to pay for their own post auction channel relocation funding; and, 2) the almost complete collapse of the valuation cycle for LPTV due to the effects of the auction process; and, 3) the shut down of the LPTV “innovation cycle” in favor of the interests and market inefficiencies of the full-power broadcasters.

Mike Gravino, Director of the LPTV SPECTRUM RIGHTS COALITION said of the new Bill:

“The 112th Congress attempted to eliminate LPTV in the incentive auction process, and it was only because of one paragraph in the legislation put in by Chairman Walden that we have been able to hold back the FCC from a wholesale taking of our licensed spectrum holdings. And now members of the 113th Congress, who seem beholden to the conservative political corporate machine are trying to complete that process. Our Coalition calls on Chairman Walden to once again step up and act as the shield for LPTV against these interests, even if introduced by members of his own party.”

He went on to say about a Coalition legislative proposal:

“Our Coalition of over 150 LPTV broadcasters with more than 950 FCC licensed stations and new construction permits in most all 50 states, which represent the largest TV DMA, cities, and population centers, as well as 100’s of rural communities, has a “grand bargain” to help not just the urban LPTV owners and viewers, and the rural TV translators and their viewers, and the 100’s of independent networks which air on them; but it will help the small independent wireless internet service providers, unleash the unlicensed economy, and greatly assist the PBS system maintain their national coverage. We urge all members of the 113th Congress, both urban and rural, to not

let the LPTV service be destroyed by the corporate greed so prevalent in other parts of our new economy. LPTV is the most diverse of all broadcast license groups with more women and minority owners than any other. We must not just preserve this service, but retool it for the net and app economies of the future.”

The LPTV SPECTRUM RIGHTS COALITION is a research, advocacy and lobbying effort of over 150 FCC broadcast television licensees in most all 50 states, which operate and hold construction permits for more than 950 stations and new construction permits. It is the largest group representing the LPTV service and has both urban and rural members, the networks which air on them, and numerous supporting industry product and service providers.

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