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# United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE,  
AND TRANSPORTATION

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6125

2243934

June 16, 1993

The Honorable James H. Quello  
Interim Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Quello:

Although I have tremendous sympathies for the resource problems at the Federal Communications Commission, I find it totally inexcusable that the Commission has delayed implementation of cable rate regulation in a manner that will significantly diminish the rate relief that consumers should receive under the Cable Act passed by Congress last year. I do not understand why extension of the June 21, 1993 implementation date and delaying the availability of complaint forms are related to the Commission's resource problems. While it may take longer to process complaints and certify cities than originally expected, these delays should in no way expunge consumers' rights for full rate relief once the Commission has determined that rates are unreasonable. I ask the Commission to carry out the intent of the law passed by Congress and ensure that consumers may obtain refunds for basic rates from June 21, 1993, and that consumers have the ability to file complaints for other cable programming services any date after June 21, 1993.

Again, I understand that the Commission's resource problems are severe and I will do whatever I can to increase the Commission's funding. I do not believe, however, that this resource shortfall should disadvantage consumers. I urge you to remedy this problem as soon possible.

Sincerely

  
DANIEL K. INOUE  
U.S. Senator

(over)

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Senator Inoue

Integrity of the Commission  
process / not our preference to delay -

Cutting losses to fight  
another day == strategic withdrawal

Q. Wrote letter to help legislation - strong  
proponent -  
looked at it from management  
resources - years of experience in management -

(Legislative affairs gets all  
press release runs a before press)

Congress

Wrote a complex law - not perfect  
No money to implement law

Under the circumstances and  
did the right thing ==

Congressional budget office CBO  
estimated \$20 to \$50 million per year to  
implement Cook act as written == We got  
nothing... that is 'irresponsible' ✓