

April 6, 1984

Separate Statement of FCC Commissioner James H. Quello

In Re: Petition for Rulemaking to Delete the cable Television Mandatory Signal Carriage Rules (RM-3786).

I am writing to emphasize my continuing concern for the importance of the mandatory carriage rules as a means of ensuring that the public will not be denied access to local broadcast services. While new technologies are permitting broadcasters to offer a wide variety of services besides local broadcast programming, it is local program service that is the bedrock of Congress' regulatory scheme for telecommunications. In my view, it is one of this Commission's primary responsibilities to ensure the continued viability of local telecommunications services to the public, and I continue to believe that the mandatory carriage rules perform this essential function.

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