

Concurring Statement of Chairman Richard E. Wiley
in which Commissioner Quello joins

In re
Notice of Proposed Rulemaking concerning
Certificate of Compliance Applications
to be filed March 31, 1977

While I concur in the Commission's ultimate judgment in this proceeding, I do have certain reservations concerning specific elements thereof.

First, I seriously question the need for filing of signal carriage information on or before the former deadline of March 31, 1977. There is no doubt that we should have this information on hand but, in my opinion, our current Annual Report (Form 325) is sufficient to satisfy the Commission's present needs. If this form is not considered adequate for these purposes, it can be modified within a reasonable time so that cable operators are not put to the burden and expense of filing this information separately. I believe that the FCC should be conscious of the paperwork burdens placed on those we regulate, especially the smaller operators. On balance, I feel that this particular filing could have been avoided without affecting the performance of our regulatory function.

Secondly, while the Commission remains open to suggestions that the present franchise fee limit should be changed, I personally have great reservations as to whether such a change could be justified. I am concerned that "high local franchise fees may burden cable television to the extent that it will be unable to carry out its part in our national communications policy", 36 FCC 2d at 209.

Start

ABA Speech

Dec. 3, 1976

I'D LIKE TO TALK WITH YOU, TODAY,
 ABOUT SOME OF THE ISSUES WHICH THE COMMISSION
 WILL BE CONSIDERING IN THE MONTHS AHEAD. AND,
 PERHAPS I CAN RELATE SOME OF THOSE ISSUES TO
 THE EFFORTS WHICH HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED TO
 REWRITE THE COMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1934. I'D
 LIKE TO DISCUSS LICENSE RENEWAL, FORFEITURE
 AUTHORITY, SECTION 315 AND THE FAIRNESS DOCTRINE,
 CABLE TELEVISION, SATELLITE NETWORKING,
 SATELLITE-TO-HOME BROADCASTING AND THE
 GOVERNMENT'S ROLE IN MATTERS INVOLVING PRO-
 GRAM CONTENT.

Arizona Broadcaster Ass'n
 Dec 3, Mc Cormick Ranch Inn
 Scottsdale, Arizona
 Dec. 3, 1976