



## **WBA Opposes Reallocation of TV Broadcast Spectrum**

Your WBA has joined 46 other State Broadcasters Association in opposing any reallocation of the television broadcast spectrum. At the outset the State Associations registered this overriding concern with the FCC. The free, local, over-the-air, television broadcast industry, at Congressional, FCC and public urging and with their collective support, has spent billions of dollars to convert their facilities to full digital operations. That having been largely accomplished, the television industry is in the process of fulfilling the promise of digital television through the delivery of HD quality pictures, multicasting, mobile television, and beyond. At the same time, there are those, whose efforts could very well prevent the fulfillment of that promise, who are trying to convince the policymakers to place all or some of the television spectrum at risk notwithstanding the fact that there is absolutely not factual support in the record that the United States is suffering from a shortage of spectrum for wireless broadband. There is simply no “beef” in the assertion.

Furthermore, the debate itself is not without cost to the public interest. The long-term, multicasting arrangements with content suppliers, that so many television stations are now pursuing, will be at risk if spectrum were taken away. The plans and investments needed to implement mobile television nationwide will also be at risk for the same reason. Because of this concern, and for all of the reasons cited in the Joint Comments, we urged the FCC to immediately and clearly reject all calls for the reallocation of any television broadcast spectrum.