

Press Release

Low Power Protection Act Introduces Class A Window

A critical initiative that will serve the public interest.

STAMFORD CT, [20th December 2021] - Today, The LPTV Broadcasters Association announces its support and endorsement of the recently introduced Low Power Protection Act.

Frank Copsidas, Founder and President of the LPTV Broadcasters Association stated “We are grateful to Senators Blunt and Wyden for introducing The Low Power Protection Act. The Bill recently introduced in the Senate of the United States directs the FCC to issue a rule that certain low power television stations may be accorded primary status as Class A television licensees. It is an essential, meaningful initiative to serve the public interest. The Act is cited as “The Low Power Protection Act” and a key word is “protection”. Low Power TV operators have been unable to secure the crucial benefits of Class A status since the first window in 1999. The primary benefits of Class A are to protect broadcast coverage area, encourage investment and secure small business financing which is not available to most LPTV facilities.”

Senator Blunt posed this question to FCC Chairwoman Rosenworcel during her recent Senate Committee confirmation hearing, “I’m working on legislation to open another, similar window to allow for additional low power stations to once again apply for these “Class A” rights. Can I have your commitment that you will work with me and this Committee in enacting that law so that we can help expand and protect television stations in small markets and the viewers they serve?” Chairwoman Rosenworcel responded “yes”.

Much attention has been given to encouraging support for local journalism and jobs and protecting television stations for the viewers they serve. Secure, trusted local news and culturally diverse content is the foundation of the programming that Association members uniquely broadcast on a daily basis. Since launching, the LPTV Broadcasters Association has been an early and active supporter for local news and of The Local Journalism Sustainability Act.

“The Low Power Protection Act furthers our members’ ability to secure financing and investment to deliver content ranging from local news to culturally diverse programming. Simply stated, this bill allows LPTV stations to grow to the next level in serving the public interest with both protection of broadcast coverage area and the ability to secure crucial small business financing. The LPTV Broadcasters Association on behalf of its members around the country will work tirelessly to see this legislation gets passed.” Commented Michael Lee, Executive Director.

About the LPTV Broadcasters Association

LPTV Broadcasters Association is the non-profit industry organization representing Low Power, Translator and Class A TV Stations. The 5,000+ low power television stations equate to 75% of the TV stations in the USA. The Association provides a voice and representation for our LPTV members with legislators and policy makers in an increasingly complex security focused communications landscape. The Association provides a one source platform for insights, issues and standards to enable the LPTV industry to thrive for station owners and investors.

Funding for the LPTV Broadcasters Association comes from membership dues, event sponsorships, and station brokerage.

For more information contact

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