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SATELLITE HOME VIEWER EXTENSION AND REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2004

DIVISION J—OTHER MATTERS

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TITLE IX—SATELLITE HOME VIEWER EXTENSION AND REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2004 [1]

SECTION 1. [17 U.S.C. 101 note] SHORT TITLES; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLES.—This title may be cited as the "Satellite Home Viewer Extension and Reauthorization Act of 2004" or the "W. J. (Billy) Tauzin Satellite Television Act of 2004".

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TITLE I—STATUTORY LICENSE FOR SATELLITE CARRIERS

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SEC. 106. [17 U.S.C. 119 note] EFFECT ON CERTAIN PROCEEDINGS.

Nothing in this title shall modify any remedy imposed on a party that is required by the judgment of a court in any action that was brought before May 1, 2004, against that party for a violation of section 119 of title 17, United States Code.

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SEC. 109. STUDY.

No later than June 30, 2008, the Register of Copyrights shall report to the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate the Register's findings and recommendations on the operation and revision of the statutory licenses under sections 111, 119, and 122 of title 17, United States Code. The report shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(1) A comparison of the royalties paid by licensees under such sections, including historical rates of increases in these royalties, a comparison between the royalties under each such section and the prices paid in the marketplace for comparable programming.

(2) An analysis of the differences in the terms and conditions of the licenses under such sections, an analysis of

[1] This title was enacted into law as part of Division J of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (Public Law 108–447, 118 Stat 3393).

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whether these differences are required or justified by historical, technological, or regulatory differences that affect the satellite and cable industries, and an analysis of whether the cable or satellite industry is placed in a competitive disadvantage due to these terms and conditions.

(3) An analysis of whether the licenses under such sections are still justified by the bases upon which they were originally created.

(4) An analysis of the correlation, if any, between the royalties, or lack thereof, under such sections and the fees charged to cable and satellite subscribers, addressing whether cable and satellite companies have passed to subscribers any savings realized as a result of the royalty structure and amounts under such sections.

(5) An analysis of issues that may arise with respect to the application of the licenses under such sections to the secondary transmissions of the primary transmissions of network stations and superstations that originate as digital signals, including issues that relate to the application of the unserved household limitations under section 119 of title 17, United States Code, and to the determination of royalties of cable systems and satellite carriers.

SEC. 110. ADDITIONAL STUDY.

No later than December 31, 2005, the Register of Copyrights shall report to the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate the Register's findings and recommendations on the following:

(1) The extent to which the unserved household limitation for network stations contained in section 119 of title 17, United States Code, has operated efficiently and effectively and has forwarded the goal of title 17, United States Code, to protect copyright owners of over-the-air television programming, including what amendments, if any, are necessary to effectively identify the application of the limitation to individual households to receive secondary transmissions of primary digital transmissions of network stations.

(2) The extent to which secondary transmissions of primary transmissions of network stations and superstations under section 119 of title 17, United States Code, harm copyright owners of broadcast programming throughout the United States and the effect, if any, of the statutory license under section 122 of title 17, United States Code, in reducing such harm.

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TITLE II—FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OPERATIONS

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SEC. 207. [47 U.S.C. 325 note] RECIPROCAL BARGAINING OBLIGATIONS.

(a) * * *

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(b) DEADLINE.—The Federal Communications Commission shall prescribe regulations to implement the amendment made by subsection (a)(5) within 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 208. STUDY OF IMPACT ON CABLE TELEVISION SERVICE.

(a) STUDY REQUIRED.—No later than 9 months after the date of enactment of the Satellite Home Viewer Extension and Reauthorization Act of 2004, the Federal Communications Commission shall complete an inquiry regarding the impact on competition in the multichannel video programming distribution market of the current retransmission consent, network nonduplication, syndicated exclusivity, and sports blackout rules, including the impact of those rules on the ability of rural cable operators to compete with direct broadcast satellite industry in the provision of digital broadcast television signals to consumers. Such report shall include such recommendations for changes in any statutory provisions relating to such rules as the Commission deems appropriate.

(b) REPORT REQUIRED.—The Federal Communications Commission shall submit a report on the results of the inquiry required by subsection (a) to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate not later than 9 months after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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SEC. 212. [47 U.S.C. 325 note] DIGITAL TRANSITION SAVINGS PROVISION.

Nothing in the dates by which requirements or other provisions are effective under this Act or the amendments made by this Act shall be construed—

(1) to impair the authority of the Federal Communications Commission to take any action with respect to the transition by television broadcasters to the digital television service; or

(2) to require the Commission to take any such action.

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