

86TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6937

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 6, 1959

Mr. KING of Utah introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 with respect to
community antenna television systems and certain rebroad-
casting activities.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 That section 3 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47
4 U.S.C. 153) is amended by inserting at the end thereof the
5 following:

6 “(hh) ‘Community antenna television system’ means
7 any facility performing the service of receiving and amplify-
8 ing the signals transmitting programs broadcast by one or
9 more television stations and redistributing such programs, by
10 wire, to subscribing members of the public, but such term

1 shall not include (1) any such facility which serves fewer
2 than fifty subscribers, (2) any such facility which serves
3 only the residents of one or more apartment dwellings under
4 common ownership, control, or management, and commer-
5 cial establishments located on the premises, or (3) any such
6 facility used only for the distribution, by wire, of programs
7 for which a charge is imposed generally on all subscribers
8 wherever located, and which are not in the first instance
9 broadcast for reception without charge by all members of
10 the public within the direct range of television broadcast
11 stations.”

12 SEC. 2. Section 318 of the Communications Act of
13 1934 (47 U.S.C. 318) is amended by striking out “(3)
14 stations engaged in broadcasting, and (4)”, and inserting
15 in lieu thereof “and (3)”.

16 SEC. 3. Section 319 (d) of the Communications Act of
17 1934 (47 U.S.C. 319 (d)) is amended by inserting before
18 the period at the end thereof a colon and the following:
19 “*And provided further*, That if the Commission finds that
20 the public interest, convenience, and necessity would be
21 served thereby, it may waive the requirement of a permit
22 for construction for a station that is engaged solely in re-
23 broadcasting signals and was constructed on or before
24 January 1, 1959”.

25 SEC. 4. Subsection (a) of section 325 of the Com-

1 munications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 325 (a)) is amended
2 by inserting after the period at the end thereof the following:
3 “No community antenna television system (as defined in
4 section 3 (hh) of this Act) shall redistribute the program or
5 any part thereof of a broadcasting station without the ex-
6 press authority of the originating station.”

7 SEC. 5. Part I of the Communications Act of 1934 is
8 amended by inserting after section 329 (47 U.S.C. 329)
9 a new section as follows:

10 “SEC. 330. (a) Upon request by the licensee of a regu-
11 lar television broadcast station (other than a station engaged
12 solely in rebroadcasting) which is assigned to a city or com-
13 munity in which a community antenna television system pro-
14 vides television programs to local subscribers, such com-
15 munity antenna television system shall regularly redistribute
16 programs broadcast by such local television broadcast station.

17 “(b) The Commission may, by rule or order, prescribe
18 such standards and conditions as it may find necessary to
19 assure that the reception of the programs redistributed by
20 the community antenna television system under subsection
21 (a) hereof shall be reasonably comparable in technical
22 quality to the reception of programs of other television sta-
23 tions redistributed by the community antenna television
24 system.

25 “(c) The Commission also may, by rule or order,

1 prescribe the period of time within which community anten-
2 na television systems shall complete preparations for and
3 commence the redistribution of programs under subsections
4 (a) and (b) hereof.”

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