1 Children's Memorial since the first broadcast in 2000.

2 "WTMX generously provides us with the air

3 time, and their staff spends hundreds of hours

4 preparing for the annual event. WLEY also began

5 holding a radiothon each year, which calls the

6 Hispanic community to action. 2007 marked the second

7 year that the Spanish language radiothon was held,

8 raising over $1 million for Children's Memorial.

9 "These radiothons are so crucial in

10 supporting the programs and services that help to

11 improve the lives of children treated right here in

12 Chicago. All of the funds raised during the radiothon

13 events support all the care and service aspects" --

14 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

15 MR. PARUCH: -- "of the hospital." Thank

16 you.

17 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

18 (Applause.)

19 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Eric Monte?

20 (No response.)

21 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Luis Enrique Romero --

22 oh, I'm sorry.

23 MR. MONTE: Hello. My name is Eric Monte.

24 I'm a writer. I created *Good Times*, George and

25 Louise of *The Jeffersons*, *What's Happening*, *The Cosby*

1 *Show*, and I wrote a movie called *Cooley High* --

2 (Applause.)

3 MR. MONTE: -- which was made for $750,000

4 and grossed over $100 million in the box office. It's

5 considered by most Black people to be the best Black

6 movie ever made.

7 Okay. I understand why there's no

8 diversity in television, because I've dealt with the

9 networks and the producer, Norman Lear. Okay. And it

10 took me three years to convince them to put a father

11 in the family on *Good Times*. Okay.

12 The reason we don't have no diversity is

13 because -- I had the same problem talking to the

14 networks and the executives at the studio as I'm

15 having here. I have to convince some White people,

16 who have never been in a Black neighborhood, let alone

17 a Black household --

18 (Applause.)

19 MR. MONTE: -- about how to do Black movies

20 and television shows.

21 But I'm going to go on -- because I ain't

22 got but 23 seconds -- and tell you what I want to do

23 next. I want to do Harriet Tubman's life as a weekly

24 series. Everybody knows who Harriet Tubman is.

25 (Applause.)

1 MR. MONTE: Okay. Last thing is, I wrote
2 this book called *Blueprint for Peace* that tells how we
3 can end war forever, eliminate taxes completely,
4 reduce crime by at least 70 percent, and stop the
5 starvation on our planet. I thank you very much.
6 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.
7 (Applause and cheering.)
8 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Luis Enrique Romero.
9 MR. ROMERO: Hello. My name is Luis
10 Enrique Romero. My presentation is in Spanish.
11 [Delivers testimony in Spanish]
12 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you very much.
13 MR. ROMERO: *Gracias.*
14 (Applause.)
15 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Martin Macias?
16 (Pause.)
17 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Martin?
18 MS. MACIAS: Martina. Good evening. I'm
19 the Executive --
20 MODERATOR SIGALOS: I'm sorry?
21 MS. MACIAS: -- Producer -- sorry?
22 MODERATOR SIGALOS: So who's speaking?
23 MS. MACIAS: Martina --
24 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Okay.
25 MS. MACIAS: -- Macias. Good evening. I'm

1 the Executive Producer of a youth-created program that
2 focuses on the First Amendment, *First Voice, Primera*
3 *Voz*. And in the spirit of the First Amendment, I'm
4 proud to be here and to see the students and
5 volunteers of Radio Arte' putting forth their reality
6 and their comments.
7 This afternoon I interviewed Commissioner
8 Adelstein. I asked him how to best craft a testimony,
9 and he replied I should speak from my own personal
10 experiences. I've chosen to follow that advice.
11 Like many, I listen to the radio or watch
12 TV before heading out each morning. Some stations are
13 better than others, but I always have the opportunity
14 of changing it to something else. But, my mother, on
15 the other hand, only speaks Spanish.
16 If she decides to watch TV, she has two
17 stations she can get her information from, and if she
18 decides instead to listen to the radio, she has a few
19 more options. But, guess what? The majority of these
20 other "options" are owned by the same non-Latino
21 company that owns 50 percent of Spanish language
22 Chicago TV stations.
23 The FCC regulations regulates media
24 ownership, and are obligated to make sure there's
25 competition, diversity, and localism.

1 (Applause.)

2 MS. MACIAS: When speaking about Spanish
3 language radio, two companies own all of the radio
4 stations in Chicago. That is not competition. A news
5 story translated from an English language news wire
6 does not address Latino localism. And just because
7 these stations target Latinos does not mean that it
8 speaks to diversity of Latino view points.

9 (Applause.)

10 MS. MACIAS: In the past month, Radio Arte'
11 has addressed the issues of media ownership with its
12 students and volunteers, and on the air through open
13 discussion.

14 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

15 MS. MACIAS: We put the words out --

16 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you very much.

17 MS. MACIAS: Thank you so much.

18 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

19 (Applause and cheering.)

20 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Reyna Wences.

21 MS. WENCES: Good afternoon. I'm a student
22 journalist for 90.5 FM, WRTE, Radio Arte'. That is
23 the only Latino owned news operated public radio in
24 the nation.

25 I am here to express my outrage that the

1 FCC has failed in the efforts to foster more minority
2 perspectives in mainstream media. It will be
3 inconsiderable so that large media owners buy out more
4 local media outlets before readdressing the agency's
5 failure to foster minority voices in the media.
6 Less than half of our every local news
7 program often trials and death are the key issues that
8 would have affect on the lives of people in the
9 viewing area. One third of the news stories about
10 incidents, crimes, fires, and 15 percent are political
11 coverage.
12 Women and people of color not only are
13 absent in Chicago news, they are also on the under-
14 represented as media owners. Women are outnumbered
15 two to one in the news while White male, and official,
16 dominate news coverage.
17 The FCC should stand firm with the public
18 against further concentration of media ownership in
19 the hands of few, and to have an independent panel to
20 review female and minority ownership. Thank you.
21 (Applause.)
22 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.
23 Beauty Turner.
24 MS. TURNER: Thank you. First of all, my
25 name is Ms. Beauty Turner. I'm the Assistant Editor

1 for *Residents Journal*, but I also write for six other
2 publications, and I write about low income residents
3 from all around the city. The reason that I write for
4 so many papers is because my people, the low income
5 residents, do not have a voice, not even on the radio
6 station that's considered Black. Okay.
7 First of all, I'd like to thank each and
8 every last one of you all for taking the time to
9 listen to me, for there's too many issues that we as
10 people are faced with in my communities.
11 We need to know, to let you know, that in
12 the Windy City of Chicago, there is a Chicago Housing
13 Authority $1.6 billion transformation plan that's
14 actually moving tens of thousands of low income
15 people. This is a very important issue that is not
16 discussed on many radio stations nor television
17 stations, or anything. Not even --
18 (Applause.)
19 MS. TURNER: -- WVON. Okay. As well as
20 from surrounding areas -- they're moving people from
21 all the way around the surrounding areas. I want to
22 know whatever happened here happens all the way around
23 the globe. To me this is a very important issue, and
24 to everyone in this room it should be a very important
25 issue too. And it should have hit every media

1 station. Every media station on the face of the
2 planet.
3 Too many people's lives are being affected
4 by this, not only the low income residents are being
5 affected by this, but so are middle income people.
6 Your --
7 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.
8 MS. TURNER: -- teachers losing their jobs
9 and everything else. What you --
10 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you very much.
11 MR. TURNER: -- need to do, for me, is get
12 that independent board, and also start thinking about
13 more minority people, low income residents.
14 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.
15 MS. TURNER: Not WVON, and all the rest --
16 WVON is good --
17 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you very much.
18 MS. TURNER: -- for some, but not for
19 low --
20 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.
21 MS. TURNER: -- income residents. Thank
22 you.
23 (Applause.)
24 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Frank Diaz.
25 MR. DIAZ: Good evening, and thank you for

1 the opportunity. I'm the Marketing Associate for Casa
2 Central, the largest Hispanic social service agency in
3 the Midwest.
4 Over the past 53 years, Casa Central and
5 its affiliates have evolved from an organization with
6 three employees and $26,000 in budget, to an acclaimed
7 model non-profit with a combined staff of over 500
8 employees.
9 Actually, the Labor Day Telethon is not the
10 only one in town. Casa Central has also hosted its
11 own pledge drive since 1981. And WSNS-TV Channel 44
12 has been our partner in this signature event for the
13 past 18 years.
14 Over the course of this long standing
15 relationship, they've broadcast our telethon live from
16 our Humbolt Park location, as well as from their
17 students. They've assisted us in the production of
18 informational segments about our programs and our
19 services.
20 And, as a result of their most recent
21 broadcast on April 22, Casa Central received over
22 $120,000 in contributions and pledges. This effort
23 will help Casa Central continue serving children,
24 families, and older adults with our programs. Aside
25 from the annual telethon, WSNS-TV also has provided

1 Casa Central ample access to the airwaves through its
2 public affairs programming and frequent public service
3 announcements.
4 Casa Central is very supportive of the
5 outstanding work performed by WSNS Telemundo Chicago,
6 and we're pleased to serve as an example of the
7 station's outreach to Chicagoland's Hispanic
8 community. Thank you very much.
9 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.
10 (Applause.)
11 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Maria de los Corral?
12 (No response.)
13 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Cynthia Wilson?
14 MS. WILSON: Good evening. My name is
15 Cynthia Wilson. I am an evangelical Christian, and a
16 liberal leaning Democrat. I'm a world traveler who
17 lives in rural Illinois. I'm one person with diverse
18 values, interests, and experiences. Diversity is
19 important to me. I want media that reflects that
20 diversity.
21 When I travel, I experience a world filled
22 with a cacophony of voices. When I'm at home in
23 Central Illinois, I want media to bring me that world
24 of voices. I don't want media that's condensed into
25 one monotonous voice.

1 (Applause.)

2 MS. WILSON: I call on you, the FCC, to
3 follow your mandate to make rules that will ensure
4 that I can hear from a diverse range of perspectives.
5 In conclusion, I'd like to make a rebuttal.
6 We keep hearing from industry representatives who are
7 calling media ownership rules archaic. Well, maybe
8 it's an idea that has just worked for a very long
9 time. We shouldn't call those rules archaic, we
10 should call them classic. Thank you.

11 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

12 (Applause.)

13 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Marlene Rodriguez Vick.

14 MS. RODRIGUEZ VICK: My name is Marlene
15 Rodriguez Vick, and I'm with the Illinois Hispanic
16 Chamber of Commerce, a non-profit organization.

17 I've been a member of the Clear Channel
18 Radio Advisory Board for two years. As part of the
19 mission of the Clear Channel Advisory Board, we have
20 embarked on projects that address concerns in Hispanic
21 communities, such as health, community violence, and
22 voter registration.

23 In our first year of partnership with Clear
24 Channel Radio, they have sponsored our Make the
25 Connection Hispanic Business Expo, with over 125

1 public service announcements and streaming on the most
2 popular radio stations. They have also participated
3 in workshops.
4 The next project of the Advisory Board is
5 the Hispanic Excellence in Leadership awards,
6 recognizing the accomplishments of leaders, some well
7 known, others unsung heroes, that have impacted the
8 Latino community.
9 The Illinois Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
10 looks forward to working with Clear Channel to meet
11 the needs of the Latino community. Thank you.
12 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.
13 (Applause.)
14 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Before I announce the
15 next speaker, would Kon Crete, Mark Denzin, Oscar
16 Reyes, Anna Jurado, Tanya Unzueta, Reverend James
17 Demus, Jonathan Farnick, Richard Potter, and Max
18 Rodriguez please come down?
19 Joseph Harrington.
20 MR. HARRINGTON: Good evening. My name is
21 Joe Harrington. I'm Assistant Commissioner for the
22 Chicago Department of Public Health. I'm not here to
23 take a position, I don't have a platform, I'm here in
24 my capacity as a member of the Clear Channel Chicago
25 Radio Community Advisory Board.

1 I really want to speak to what being on
2 that Board does. It provides me access to people at
3 Clear Channel, it allows me an opportunity to get the
4 message out that I want to get out. In my role as an
5 Assistant Commissioner of Health, I have the
6 responsibility for the health and well-being of over
7 three million people in the City of Chicago. Being on
8 that Board allows me to get my message out to those
9 people.
10 Last year there was an issue that was
11 raised among the Board regarding childhood
12 immunizations prior to entry to school in the fall of
13 the year. Clear Channel took that on as a challenge.
14 They developed a series of public service
15 announcements. I worked with the Chicago public
16 schools. We established additional sites for
17 immunizations. As I understand, immunizations for
18 that school year went up.
19 So that's one example of how a radio
20 station and a company can, in fact, work with people
21 in the community to bring about positive change. So I
22 want to thank you for your time. I want to commend
23 you for the length of time that you've spent here, for
24 bringing this hearing to the City of Chicago.
25 I also want to commend those people that

1 came here earlier today to testify and tell you their
2 opinions and give you an idea of what was on their
3 mind. Thank you.
4 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.
5 (Applause.)
6 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Ras SKB?
7 (No response.)
8 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Kon Crete?
9 (No response.)
10 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Mark Denzin?
11 (No response.)
12 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Oscar Reyes.
13 MS. REYES: Oscaria. Oscaria Reyes. Yes,
14 everyone gets it wrong. Okay. I'm ready. Okay.
15 Good night, Chairman. My name is Oscaria
16 Reyes. And as a consumer and young Latina journalist,
17 I want to hear and see pieces that will help advance
18 the public and people like myself. Yet, what
19 mainstream media has done lately is serve themselves.
20 As radio and TV stations get bigger, their
21 connection with the community gets smaller. I feel
22 that much of what my local TV and radio stations air
23 is redundant, and I find that it is pointless that
24 almost every station airs the same thing. Instead of
25 airing the same thing every hour, my local could

1 concentrate more on the community, which is something
2 they have lacked.
3 I find myself watching different news
4 stations on the hour, yet what I hear on these
5 stations is practically the same. The news
6 programming is increasing, it's coverage on certain
7 communities also is decreasing, and when they do cover
8 these communities, it is in a negative way,
9 encouraging the stereotypes of minorities.
10 Chicago is a very diverse city, but its
11 media is not. I am interested in more local content
12 and less commercialism, for big media stations to
13 accurately present the diversity in my community. It
14 is evident that mainstream media is not doing its job
15 to serve the community.
16 Just look at the number of increasing low
17 power radio stations to create their own ways of
18 communicating to the locals. So, Chairman of the FCC,
19 I ask you to do your job. More opportunities should
20 be given to local stations, such as WRTE, Radio Arte'
21 90.5, who encourages diversity and is serving the
22 community, especially the youth.
23 Me, as a Latina youth female, they educate
24 me, and not only myself, but my --
25 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

1 MS. REYES: -- community. It is sad that
2 Radio Arte' is the only the only Latino owned youth
3 operated --
4 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.
5 MS. REYES: -- radio station in the nation.
6 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.
7 MS. REYES: Not in the country, in the
8 nation. Probably one of the --
9 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you very much.
10 MS. REYES: -- only stations to give me --
11 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.
12 MS. REYES: -- a young Latina --
13 MODERATOR SIGALOS: I appreciate your --
14 MS. REYES: -- an opportunity.
15 MODERATOR SIGALOS: -- comments.
16 MS. REYES: Thank you for your time.
17 (Applause.)
18 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Anna Jurado. Anna
19 Jurado?
20 (No response.)
21 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Tanya Unzueta?
22 MS. JURADO: I'm Anna Jurado.
23 MODERATOR SIGALOS: I'm sorry?
24 MS. JURADO: Anna Jurado. As a Latina here
25 in Chicago, and a student at WRTE 90.5 FM, Radio

1 Arte', I'm testifying before you because I want a fair
2 chance at a job in my future, without facing any
3 discrimination for being a Latina woman coming from a
4 so-called minority group.
5 I would like to let you know how important
6 it is to stop big media ownership from controlling
7 even more media outlets. Currently there is a severe
8 lack of diversity in the airwaves and in local TV
9 broadcasting due to the fact that major companies have
10 control over the media.
11 Right now our media is ruled by
12 commercialism, advertising, and because of this local
13 problems and events are not being covered
14 appropriately, or sometimes not even at all. I would
15 like to see the percentages of Asian, Latinos,
16 African-Americans and other ethnic groups increase in
17 owning more airwaves and TV outlets so that we can
18 involve, address, and overcome the problems that our
19 communities face.
20 If you eliminate the few remaining rules on
21 media consolidation, the top companies would increase
22 their control over radio, newspaper, and TV therefore
23 controlling and manipulating what we hear and see.
24 We want an independent panel to review
25 female and minority ownership, and to stop for big

1 media ownership consolidation. Thank you.

2 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

3 (Applause.)

4 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Tanya Unzueta?

5 MS. UNZUETA: Hi. My name is Tanya

6 Unzueta, and I'm the Director of Youth and Community

7 Programming at Radio Arte', which offers a free

8 journalism and broadcasting program.

9 And every day I work with these young

10 people between the ages of 15 and 22, some of whom

11 you've heard from today, who are intelligent, who

12 understand the power of media over communities, and

13 who are passionate about the work that they're

14 beginning to do as your journalists.

15 Too many times, however, I have seen that

16 passion frustrated as they move from our training

17 program to work for the only media jobs in our

18 language, those provided by large media conglomerates

19 in Chicago, particularly by Univision Radio.

20 The jobs that these companies offer are

21 limited to production of entertainment shows, some of

22 which have been reprimanded by our community for

23 defamatory language, in particular towards women and

24 the gay community.

25 There are no jobs available for young

1 people in the media who want to create intelligent,
2 local, and informative programming, particularly for
3 the Spanish speaking community. And if our youth want
4 a job in the media, they have to adjust to the
5 standards of one company or be outcast from the radio
6 broadcast world.
7 I think that the reality is that this --
8 that the radio for community that helps people will
9 not be a possibility as long as media are in the hands
10 of few companies whose interests are not in educating,
11 but in entertaining and making money. Thank you.
12 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.
13 (Applause.)
14 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Reverend James Demus?
15 (No response.)
16 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Jonathan Farnick?
17 MR. FARNICK: Hi. I'm John Farnick.
18 Thanks for -- to Operation Push for hosting, and the
19 FCC Commission for holding these hearings.
20 Many people today have talked about the
21 media consolidation and the real and perceived
22 problems of ownership, lack of diversity and such, and
23 local operation. I'm here to talk about the problem
24 of framing -- excuse me, coverage. Specifically if
25 it's covered in the first place, and framing.

1 There's a debate in Congress as we speak
2 about the telecommunications company and the
3 legislation being requested by the Administration
4 asking for immunity for NSA wire tapping scandals.
5 Article 2, Section 3 states that the President must
6 see that all laws are faithfully executed. By
7 demanding immunity from prosecution begs the
8 questions, have these companies broken the law?
9 You were tasked to look into this. You
10 declined, citing not jurisdiction, but clearance. Did
11 he ask for clearance? Did your Inspector General
12 refer the complaint to the Department of Justice?
13 Does Mr. McConnell's long standing ties to the
14 telecommunications industry bring to concern to you
15 about this?
16 Is that debate being covered in mainstream
17 media? Is the restoration of habeas corpus being
18 talked about on talk radio? Are the troops being
19 asked about their views of the web amendment? Are
20 the people downwind asked about their views if we drop
21 nukes on Iran?
22 The latest poll of Congress gives them an
23 11 percent approval rating. Is the coverage about
24 republican obstruction in an unprecedented number of
25 filibusters? Or is the frame a democratic weakness

1 and capitulation?

2 There are people on the right that think --

3 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

4 MR. FARNICK: -- the media -- thank you.

5 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you very much.

6 (Applause.)

7 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Before I announce the

8 next speaker, would Matt Crain, Brian Dolber, Nan

9 Warshaw, Earl Moore, David LaReau, David Nekimken, H.

10 DaRagahi, Dale Lehman, David Ludwig, and Ron Weiner

11 please come forward.

12 I also want to make one other note that it

13 is past 11:00. Some of you may have noticed, which

14 had been the official concluding time of today's

15 hearing. But at this point we -- it is our strong

16 desire to hear everyone who has signed up to hear

17 their public comments, and so we're going to continue

18 forward. Okay.

19 (Applause.)

20 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Richard Potter.

21 MR. POTTER: Thank you all for staying with

22 us. I'm Richard Potter, an independent video

23 producer, currently in post-production on a 70 minute

24 feature. I co-wrote, produced, directed and edited

25 the movie. My investment has been three years and

1 some $30,000, money hobbled together from grants,
2 donors, and my own pocket. It's not much of a budget
3 for 70 minutes of quality fiction, but it's a whole
4 lot for me.
5 I'm proud of the movie and I want people to
6 see the movie, but I'm worried that few will. That's
7 because I didn't produce it according to the standards
8 of the profit oriented corporate media system. I
9 didn't use famous actors, there's no sex, violence, or
10 cutting edge special effects. Perhaps most damaging,
11 my movie is in Spanish with Latino actors.
12 I intend it as a commentary on relations
13 between Latin America and our great republic. My
14 movie is not a commodity, but the expression of an
15 artistic and political vision. I'd like to share it
16 with all Chicagoans, but especially the 26 percent of
17 the city that identifies has Latino and/or Hispanic.
18 But when that same 26 percent owns only 1 percent of
19 the city's TV stations, the prospects for my movie
20 distribution are dim.
21 If you, the Commissioners of the FCC, allow
22 further media consolidation, those prospects will grow
23 even dimmer. If you do not protect public access,
24 those prospects may blink altogether.
25 If, however, you require the stewards of

1 our public airwaves to broadcast truly independent
2 programming, then you will have done a service not
3 only to artists and producers like myself, but to the
4 continuing advance of the democratic ideal. Thank
5 you.
6 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.
7 (Applause.)
8 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Max Rodriguez.
9 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes. Here. Thank you for
10 meeting with us. I've actually had the pleasure of
11 meeting some of you this past summer, especially
12 Michael Copps.
13 The first thing I'd like to say is that you
14 should definitely -- if you want to hear from the
15 public, hold the hearing on a weekend when working
16 class people could actually be here.
17 And another thing is that I'm not paid to
18 be here, unlike some of the corporate shills you heard
19 from earlier tonight.
20 (Applause and cheering.)
21 MR. RODRIGUEZ: So everyone should ask
22 themselves, do they see themselves represented by the
23 media with their interest, their concerns receiving
24 attention. The answer is no. The Chicago media
25 market has been devastated by consolidation.

1 I was general manager of my college radio
2 station back in New York City, and we faced an upward
3 battle against the same media conglomerates found
4 here. Clear Channel and CBS have ruined Chicago's
5 media market.
6 The radio, a medium ideally suited to
7 localism must not continue down the path of corporate
8 control. We must not allow the same companies that
9 control all the radio stations in Chicago to continue
10 their strangle hold on radio across the United States.
11 You can drive 3,000 miles across the United States,
12 from New York City to Chicago to Los Angeles, and
13 listen to the same exact songs over and over again.
14 Diversity in ownership will lead to
15 diversity of programming. For once, give people in
16 the community a real chance at owning their own radio
17 stations, to create their own programming that
18 reflects their own concerns.
19 There's some real concrete ways you could
20 take to address this. Bring back the minority tax
21 certificate program, which was done away in the mid
22 1990s, and I urge you to not sit on your hands and to
23 truly take action.
24 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.
25 (Applause.)

1 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Matt Crain.

2 MR. CRAIN: Hello. I'd like to thank you
3 guys very much for being with us this late in the
4 evening. All these people are here too, this is
5 important, and this is a great opportunity.

6 Like he said, my name is Matt Crain. I've
7 lived in Chicago for three years in diverse
8 neighborhoods such as uptown and Roscoe Village. I
9 had a prepared statement. I was going to talk about
10 my own experiences with the lack of locally relevant
11 news on the radio, and the cookie cutter music
12 playlists, but I think so many of the people here
13 tonight have already done a great job illustrating the
14 tremendous importance and fragility of localism in
15 Chicago's media landscape.

16 So instead, I just want to say a few words
17 about the cross-ownership ban, which is under review.
18 Industry groups like the National Association of
19 Broadcasters argue that this ban should be lifted
20 because it's old, it's unnecessary, and it's indeed
21 detrimental to their business. They say new
22 technologies, like the internet, are cutting into
23 their market share monopolies.

24 But I'd like to draw attention to just one
25 point that's often overlooked, huge media