



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS

Ann Arnold, President

July 12, 2011

The Honorable Gene Green
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Green:

Texas broadcasters greatly appreciate your leadership in ensuring that all Texans continue to have access to free, over-the-air television broadcasts that provide life saving weather warnings and emergency information, as well as important public affairs programming and their favorite sports and entertainment shows.

HR 2482 provides vital protections for viewers' access to the news and emergency communications in the event of voluntary incentive auctions to reallocate some of the TV broadcast spectrum.

The added protections ensure that viewers will continue to receive the local broadcast signals on which they rely – and without interference – by requiring the FCC to replicate existing service areas and preventing the FCC from relegating broadcast signals to channels that are not reliably viewable over the air.

Furthermore, the bill's provisions ensuring that stations are compensated for direct and indirect expenses resulting from channel moves provides much needed stability for the industry as we continue efforts to bring all the promises of the DTV transition to fruition for viewers, including free HDTV, Mobile DTV and new channels of free programming.

As you've seen time and again over the years – even the past few months – Texas broadcasters work closely with first responders before and during emergencies. We know well the value of ensuring first responders have the tools they need to communicate during crises and this legislation will build a solid foundation for this critical public service.

Thank you for your thoughtful and well-balanced approach to these concerns. Your dedication to the concerns of viewers, first responders and broadcasters is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully,

Ann Arnold