

S 592

Local Community Radio Act of 2009

Congress: 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Mar 12, 2009

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 310.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 310. (Mar 9, 2010)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/senate-bill/592

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]

Party: Democratic • State: WA • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Mar 12, 2009
Sen. Feingold, Russell D. [D-WI]	D · WI		Mar 12, 2009
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Mar 12, 2009
Sen. McCain, John [R-AZ]	R · AZ		Mar 12, 2009
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Mar 12, 2009
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Apr 29, 2009
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Jun 25, 2009
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Jun 15, 2010

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Reported By	Mar 9, 2010

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
111 HR 6533	Related bill	Jan 4, 2011: Became Public Law No: 111-371.
111 HR 1147	Related bill	Dec 24, 2009: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Local Community Radio Act of 2009 - Repeals provisions in the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001 that required the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to: (1) modify rules authorizing the operation of low-power FM radio stations to prescribe minimum distance separations for third-adjacent channels; (2) prohibit applicants who have engaged in the unlicensed operation of any station from obtaining a low-power FM license; and (3) conduct a program to test whether low-power FM radio stations will result in harmful interference to existing FM radio stations if minimum distance separations for third-adjacent channels are not required.

Requires the FCC to modify the rules authorizing the operation of low-power FM radio stations, as proposed, to prohibit any applicant from obtaining a low-power FM license if the applicant has engaged in any manner in the unlicensed operation of a station.

Requires the FCC to modify its rules to eliminate third-adjacent minimum distance separation requirements between specified FM stations.

Requires the FCC to retain rules that provide third-adjacent channel protection for full-power noncommercial FM stations that broadcast radio reading services via a subcarrier frequency from potential low-power FM station interference.

Requires the FCC, when licensing FM translator stations, to ensure that: (1) licenses are available to both FM translator stations and low-power FM stations; and (2) such decisions are made based on the needs of the local community.

Requires the FCC to conduct an economic study on the impact that low-power FM stations will have on full-power commercial FM stations.

Requires the FCC to retain its rules that provide third-adjacent channel protection for full-power FM stations that are licensed in significantly populated states with more than three million housing units and a population density greater than 1,000 per square mile land area.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Mar 9, 2010:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator Rockefeller with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 111-160.
- **Mar 9, 2010:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 310.
- **Nov 19, 2009:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Mar 12, 2009:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 12, 2009:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.