

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE,
Washington, D.C., March 21, 1968.

HON. HARLEY O. STAGGERS,
Chairman, Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This letter is in response to your request of March 15, 1968, for a report on H.R. 15986, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 by extending the authorization of appropriations for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

This bill embodies the legislative proposal contained in a draft bill submitted by this Department to the Congress on March 11, 1968. For your convenience a copy of the letter to the Speaker of the House briefly explaining the proposal is enclosed.

We urge early enactment of this proposed legislation.

The Bureau of the Budget advises that enactment of this proposed legislation would be in accord with the program of the President.

Sincerely,

WILBUR J. COHEN,
Acting Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE,
Washington, D.C., March 11, 1968.

HON. JOHN W. MCCORMACK,
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Enclosed is a draft of a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 by extending the authorization of appropriations for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

In view of the delay in the initiation of the Corporation's activities, it is unlikely that it would need or be able to use any appropriated funds this year. We anticipate, however, that it will begin to need and be able to use such funds in fiscal year 1969.

The enclosed draft bill would take cognizance of this situation by substituting for the present authorization of \$9,000,000 for fiscal year 1968 an authorization of a like amount of appropriations for fiscal year 1969. As the President indicated in his Message on education, we will be working with the Secretary of the Treasury, the Director of the Bureau of the Budget and the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, as well as appropriate Congressional committees, to formulate a long-range financing plan.

We should appreciate it if you would refer the enclosed draft bill to the appropriate committee for consideration.

We are advised by the Bureau of the Budget that enactment of this bill would be in accord with the program of the President.

Sincerely,

WILBUR J. COHEN,
Acting Secretary.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION,
Washington, D.C., March 22, 1968.

HON. HARLEY O. STAGGERS,
Chairman, Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in reply to your letter of March 15, 1968 requesting the Commission's comments on H.R. 15986, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 by extending the authorization of appropriations for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

When your Committee was considering S. 1160, which became the Public Broadcasting Act of 1967, the Commission supported the creation of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and the provisions of the bill relating to it.

H.R. 15986 substitutes for the present authorization of \$9,000,000 for expenses of the Corporation for fiscal year 1968 an authorization of a like amount of appropriations for fiscal year 1969. It also substitutes for the fiscal 1968 restriction to \$250,000 of appropriated funds for payments under any grant or contract