

tions, of course, are always in order, and we do not want to completely foreclose the members from offering comments or questions. This will be a matter for our own judgment. We will have to bear in mind that these 2 days will go by very quickly and we have a great deal of ground to cover.

Before turning the discussion over to Dean Barrow and the panelists, I would like to ask our ranking minority member, Mr. Keith of Massachusetts, to say a few words.

Dean Barrow, we are happy to have you with us.

Mr. Keith, have you any statement to make?

Mr. KEITH. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I would like to join with you in welcoming the participants in this roundtable discussion.

We are aware that all of you are extremely busy, and we thank you for taking the time to attend these meetings. I would also like to extend my congratulations to the members of the subcommittee staff who have overcome many difficult problems in scheduling these meetings.

Regarding the issues before us, it appears that there are three goals that we should seek to achieve in these sessions. We should seek to determine exactly what the various rules and doctrines are, especially the fairness doctrine; and to what extent their application is called for. We should also seek to determine how these rules and doctrines are enforced by the FCC and how this might be improved. Finally, we should seek to determine what action by the Congress is called for.

The issues involved are very complicated and confusing, and the considerations affecting many of the decisions that have to be made are closely balanced. It appears that we are confronted by a dilemma that may not be possible to solve by broad, general rules. On the one hand, there is the right of free speech which the first amendment is designed to protect. On the other, there is the public ownership of a very limited number of radio and television frequencies which are, in effect, leased to private individuals on the condition that they operate in the public interest.

One of the basic considerations of serving the public interest is that this public be given the opportunity to hear both sides of an issue. How is it possible to insure one right, that of free speech, without seriously damaging the other right to hear both sides of the question?

In any event, I am certain that each of the members of the panel has his own opinions on how best to resolve this problem. I am also certain that all of their opinions do not coincide. I hope that the panel members' discussions will expose the issues that must be resolved and that the confrontation of opinions will also furnish us with some considerations necessary to guide us.

As a Congressman, I regret the loss of an opportunity to present detailed questions to the panel members during the discussions. It is my understanding, however, that many of you will return at a later date when we are considering this matter again. By then, these sessions will have provided excellent material for framing our questions in those later sessions.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you, Mr. Keith.

Dean Barrow?