

VINCENT T. WASILEWSKI, PRESIDENT, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS

Vincent T. Wasilewski's professional career has been spent with the National Association of Broadcasters, which he joined shortly after being graduated from the University of Illinois with degrees in political science and law.

Mr. Wasilewski was employed by NAB in 1949, became vice president for Government affairs in 1960, was named executive vice president in 1961, and was selected as president in 1965.

A veteran of the U.S. Army Air Force (1942-45), he won the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal.

He was a member of the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO, 1956-60, and currently is a member of the American Bar Association, American Judicature Society, the Federal Communications Bar Association, and the International Radio and TV Society.

**STATEMENT OF ROSCOE L. BARROW, WALD PROFESSOR OF LAW,
COLLEGE OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI**

Dean BARROW. The procedure of the panel discussions will be as follows: A position paper will be read. A comment on that paper will be read. Then the panel will discuss the subject matter. This procedure will be repeated throughout the series of eight papers during the ensuing 2 days.

Mr. Chairman and members of the subcommittee, I wish to commend your rather novel use of the panel sessions as a phase of your inquiry into the equal opportunities and fairness doctrines. It is recognized by administrative agencies that their work is facilitated by utilizing written presentations and following this with oral hearings on the controlling issues which are unresolved by the writings.

Also, our courts, through pretrial conference and similar devices, are achieving more efficient administration and saving of time. Your panel sessions should serve a similar purpose of economy of time in laying a substantial part of the factual base for your inquiry. If it is unsuccessful, your moderator must assume the responsibility because your able staff has done all that possibly could be done to make these hearings successful, and I know the panelists have done their homework.

My assignment includes an introductory substantive paper, which is as follows:

The equal opportunities and fairness doctrines, which facilitate the political process and dialog on the issues of our time, are of great importance in a free society. It is fitting that, in this period of great need for dialog on vital issues, the subcommittee should inquire into the effectiveness of the operation of the fairness doctrine.

I appreciate greatly the opportunity to participate in the inquiry and am sensitive to the responsibility to the subcommittee and to the public which I assumed in accepting your invitation.

It is difficult to analyze the equal opportunities and fairness doctrines without taking into account related problems in broadcasting. Change in the present operation of these doctrines may have an impact in other areas of broadcasting. Accordingly, it is appropriate to review briefly the place of the equal opportunities and fairness doctrines in the regulation of broadcasting under the public interest standard.

The physical limitations of the spectrum cannot accommodate all who desire to broadcast. A license is granted to that applicant who is best qualified to serve the public interest. Other applicants who could have served the public interest are denied the privilege.