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CSR 6547

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**Attention: Secretary of Governmental Affairs Bureau for Close Captioning.
445 12 Street
S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554**

I am writing to petition for an exemption for my program.. Supplying closed captioning would result in an undue burden for the provider..

The program titled "On Stage" is taped at The Miami Lakes Educational Center, Miami Lakes, Florida. Students are the crew. They operate the cameras, direct, edit and etc. This is a a learning experience for them. Miami Lakes Educational Center is a vocational school for High School graduates. Television operation is one of the courses offered.

Public Broadcasting station WXEL in Boynton Beach Florida airs the program weekly on Sundays at midnight. As the host and producer of the program, I volunteer my services. No one is paid. There is a teacher who is paid by The Board Of Education.

Although, I was employed at one time as a T.V. host for public television, funding was no longer available. When WXEL offered to continue to air the program, I solicited the school to use this as a learning experience for the students, and that I would work with them with no compensation.

The program is a professional credit for the students. Their names appear and it becomes a video resume. They have gone on to CBS, NBC and many of the local Latin stations. I am also able to attest to their competence to future employers.

Although WXEL will be captioning their own programming, they don't have budget to caption mine. They will be sending their programs to an outside source. I understand a captioning machine is very expensive. WXEL has given me until July 1. 2005 to comply or they will remove us from their programming.

Please acknowledge the tremendous loss this would be for the students if they are not exempted from closed captioning at this time..

The Principal of the school has offered to write a letter if it would help.

Respectfully,

Iris Acker