## Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

November 30, 2006

The Honorable Kevin J. Martin Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

## Dear Chairman Martin:

We commend your decision to hold a series of public hearings on media ownership throughout the country and invite you to hold one of your public hearings in Washington state.

Washingtonians have been actively engaged in the media ownership debate for several years. In fact, there will be a forum this month in Seattle on the impact of media consolidation, which Federal Communications Commissioners Copps and Adelstein will be attending. This forum will be similar to a 2003 panel that was held on the University of Washington campus that was attended by several hundred audience members and lasted several hours. We believe that attendance of the full Commission would be beneficial both for the Commission and the public.

Washington has several independently owned media outlets but most markets in the state resemble the market nationally. The region also is home to the latest in technological innovation, especially in content delivery and creation.

These public hearings are important not only for the public, but also for regulators to hear testimony and understand how their decisions affect communities and our core democratic values. We believe that the Commission would gain valuable insight from the citizens of Washington state and encourage you to schedule one of your public hearings in the state.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Jay Inslee

Sincerely

Adam **Sr**hith

Jim McDermott

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Dave G. Reichert

Brian Baird

Norman D. Dicks

cc: Commissioner Michael J. Copps

Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate Commissioner Robert M. McDowell