

March 21, 2000

Magalie Roman Salas  
Office of the Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 Twelfth Street, S.W., TW-A325  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Ms. Salas:

As a blind person and a member of the National Federation of the Blind, I have learned to get the important things of life first and let the froth come along later. When it comes to the proposed rules regarding audio description of video programming, MM Docket no. 99-339, give me the meat and potatoes first, and let me have the icing on the cake later on. I consider the meat and potatoes to be the weather crawlers, the names of who is speaking and the printed names of advertisers which come on the screen in print but are rarely verbalized. "Call the number on your screen" is of no help to me. The icing on the cake is the color of someone's dress, the description of the furniture on the set, and how "distinguished" the politician appears. I can live without the pretty background of the set, but I may die if I don't get the cyclone warning.

Thomas Bickford  
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