



The **WALT DISNEY** Company

Richard M. Bates  
Senior Vice President  
Government Relations

November 8, 2019

The Honorable Lindsey Graham  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
290 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Graham,

Thank you for your letter of November 1, 2019 regarding the approaching date for the expiration of the STELA Reauthorization Act of 2014.

ABC shares your interest in ensuring that our viewers continue to have the ability to view ABC network programming on their respective satellite services after the expiration of the section 119 compulsory license at the end of the year. While we agree with many of your colleagues in the Senate and House that the ultimate goal should be for viewers to be able to view the local ABC affiliate in their respective Designated Market Area, ABC is prepared to ensure a smooth transition through short-term agreements with the satellite providers consistent with the approach outlined by the questions in your letter. As expressed on multiple occasions by the Copyright Office, the time has come for the expiration of the section 119 compulsory license. We are confident that viewers can be served through freely-negotiated arrangements, as Congress anticipated, without the need for statutory licensing, recognizing of course, that AT&T and DISH must be willing participants in any arrangement. In furtherance of that goal, ABC's answer to each of the questions posed in your letter is "yes".

Thank you again for your leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

Richard M. Bates  
Senior Vice President, Government Relations