



Resolution

To Affirm the Need to Protect America's Children From Indecent Programming

- WHEREAS** Millions of Americans are increasingly concerned with the patently offensive programming being sent into their homes, and
- WHEREAS** Millions of American families are particularly concerned with the adverse impact of such programming on children, and
- WHEREAS** Such indecent and offensive programming is contributing to a dramatic coarsening of American civil society, and
- WHEREAS** The Federal Communications Commission (the FCC) (the Commission) is charged under our law with enforcing standards of decency in broadcast media, and
- WHEREAS** The FCC has promulgated a standard defining what constitutes indecency in its decision In the Matter of a Citizens Complaint Against Pacifica Foundation (1972), and
- WHEREAS** The Pacifica standard focuses on protecting children from exposure to indecent language, and
- WHEREAS** The FCC's Pacifica standard has been upheld as constitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court in FCC vs. Pacifica Foundation (1978), and
- WHEREAS** The FCC, through various Commission and staff-level decisions, has failed to fully enforce its own standard in recent years, and
- WHEREAS** The FCC's Enforcement Bureau has exemplified that failure by refusing to sanction the airing of indecent language during the recent broadcast of the Golden Globe Awards, at a time when millions of children were in the potential audience, and
- WHEREAS** There now exists before the Commission an Application for Review, requesting that the full Commission review the decision of the Enforcement Bureau. Therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** That it is the Sense of the Senate — That the FCC should grant the pending Application for Review before the full Commission In the matter of Complaints Against Various Broadcast Licensees Regarding Their Airing of "The Golden Globe Awards" Program, and be it



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- RESOLVED** That it is the Sense of the Senate — That the FCC should return to vigorously enforcing its own U.S. Supreme Court-approved standard for indecency, as promulgated In the Matter of A Citizen's Complaint Against Pacifica Foundation, and be it
- RESOLVED** That it is the Sense of the Senate — That the FCC should reassert its responsibility as defender of the public interest by undertaking new and serious efforts to sanction broadcast licensees who refuse to adhere to the Pacifica standard, and be it further
- RESOLVED** That it is the Sense of the Senate — That the FCC make every reasonable and lawful effort to protect America's children from the degrading influences of indecent programming.