

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To prevent the Federal Communications Commission from repromulgating the fairness doctrine.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—111th Cong., 1st Sess.

S. 160

To provide the District of Columbia a voting seat and the State of Utah an additional seat in the House of Representatives

Referred to the Committee on _____ and
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Mr. DEMINT

Viz:

1 At the end of the bill add the following:

2 **SEC. 9. FAIRNESS DOCTRINE PROHIBITED.**

3 (a) LIMITATION ON GENERAL POWERS: FAIRNESS

4 DOCTRINE.—Title III of the Communications Act of 1934

5 is amended by inserting after section 303 (47 U.S.C. 303)

6 the following new section:

1 **“SEC. 303A. LIMITATION ON GENERAL POWERS: FAIRNESS**
2 **DOCTRINE.**

3 “Notwithstanding section 303 or any other provision
4 of this Act or any other Act authorizing the Commission
5 to prescribe rules, regulations, policies, doctrines, stand-
6 ards, guidelines, or other requirements, the Commission
7 shall not have the authority to prescribe any rule, regula-
8 tion, policy, doctrine, standard, guideline, or other require-
9 ment that has the purpose or effect of reinstating or re-
10 promulgating (in whole or in part)—

11 “(1) the requirement that broadcasters present
12 or ascertain opposing viewpoints on issues of public
13 importance, commonly referred to as the ‘Fairness
14 Doctrine’, as repealed in *In re Complaint of Syra-
15 cuse Peace Council against Television Station*
16 *WTVH, Syracuse New York*, 2 FCC Rcd. 5043
17 (1987); or

18 “(2) any similar requirement that broadcasters
19 meet programming quotas or guidelines for issues of
20 public importance.”.

21 (b) SEVERABILITY.—Notwithstanding section 7(a), if
22 any provision of section 2(a)(1), 2(b)(1), or 3 or any
23 amendment made by those sections is declared or held in-
24 valid or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdic-
25 tion, the amendment made by subsection (a) and the ap-

1 plication of such amendment to any other person or cir-
2 cumstance shall not be affected by such holding.