

110TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 3663

To require the Federal Communications Commission to provide for a short-term extension of the analog television broadcasting authority so that essential public safety announcements and digital television transition information may be provided for a short time during the transition to digital television broadcasting.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 1 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 17), 2008

Mr. ROCKEFELLER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

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## A BILL

To require the Federal Communications Commission to provide for a short-term extension of the analog television broadcasting authority so that essential public safety announcements and digital television transition information may be provided for a short time during the transition to digital television broadcasting.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Short-term Analog  
5       Flash and Emergency Readiness Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. COMMISSION ACTION REQUIRED.**

2 (a) PROGRAM REQUIRED.—Notwithstanding any  
3 other provision of law, the Federal Communications Com-  
4 mission shall, not later than January 15, 2009, develop  
5 and implement a program to encourage and permit, to the  
6 extent technically feasible, the continued broadcasting in  
7 the analog television service of the public safety informa-  
8 tion and digital transition information specified in sub-  
9 section (b) during the 30-day period beginning February  
10 18, 2009, subject to such limitations as the Commission  
11 finds to be consistent with the public interest and the re-  
12 quirements of this Act.

13 (b) INFORMATION REQUIRED.—The program re-  
14 quired by subsection (a) shall provide for the broadcast  
15 of—

16 (1) emergency information, including critical  
17 details regarding the emergency, as carried or re-  
18 quired to be carried by full-power stations in the  
19 digital television service;

20 (2) information, in both English and Spanish,  
21 and accessible to persons with disabilities, con-  
22 cerning—

23 (A) the digital television transition, includ-  
24 ing the fact that a transition has taken place  
25 and that additional action is required to con-

1           tinue receiving television service, including  
2           emergency notifications; and

3                   (B) the steps required to enable viewers to  
4           receive such emergency information via the dig-  
5           ital television service and to convert to receiving  
6           digital television service, including a phone  
7           number and Internet address by which help  
8           with such transition may be obtained in both  
9           English and Spanish; and

10           (3) such other information as the Commission  
11          may find to be consistent with the public interest.

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