

RM-9208

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

JOHN P. LAVELLE

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

207 COLUMBUS RD., SUITE B

P. O. BOX 5693

ATHENS, OHIO 45701-5693

<http://www.johnplavelle.com>

OFFICE (740) 593-3348
FACSIMILE (740) 594-3343

JOHN P. LAVELLE *

* ADMITTED TO PRACTICE
IN OHIO AND MONTANA

REC-111
FEB 24 1998

February 24, 1998

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: Public Comments on Report No. 2254
Further Reference: 81672**

Gentlemen:

These formal comments are offered in support of the adoption of Report No. 2254. This concerns rulemaking number 9208, which effects part 73, subparts A, B and C. The petitioner was Nicholas E. Leggett requesting an amendment of the AM and FM service rules to designate one AM and one FM channel for micro broadcasting service for localized service.

One of my clients in this area is very interested in the adoption of this rule. Given the strong public interest in broadcast communication, it would seem that the more options that are available to the listening public, the better. This is the cornerstone of the First Amendment that is to have freedom of information and communication.

Very few complaints have been heard in areas where this micro broadcasting is taking place. Interference is held to a minimum. It offers an alternative listening channel for interested persons.

Given the low capital required to establish a microradio broadcasting service, it leads to the entrepreneurial spirit and competitiveness that is good for the free flow of information and exchange of ideas.

In addition, the listening public can follow a more specialized content. For example, a microradio broadcaster could specialize in oldies music and a number of listeners could focus on that channel alone. Or, the micro broadcaster could focus on another speciality market to educate the public.

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List ABCDEF

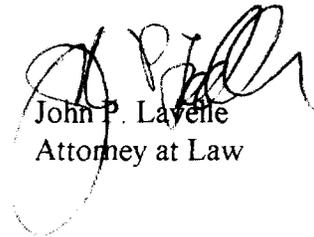
Page Two

Given the fact that our country encourages the free exchange of ideas, alternate viewpoints are always important in any public debate. By allowing microradio broadcasting to broaden into other areas, the Commission would be fostering this idea and encouraging it.

The proposed licensing by first in random selection on a minimum operating schedule is a good idea as it puts everyone on an equal playing field that seeks such a permit or application. The minimum station technical requirements is also good in that the hobbyist who is interested in microradio broadcasting service can establish the same without a large investment of capital.

These are only the beginning of the benefits of allowing this rule to come into effect. If further technical information is needed, my client would be happy to submit the same. Otherwise, please include our comments as being in favor of the adoption of this proposed rule.

Sincerely,



John P. Lavelle
Attorney at Law

JPL:ck