



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

The Honorable John Kerry
United States Senate
304 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Kerry:

Thank you for your letter regarding the pending agreement between Major League Baseball (MLB) and DIRECTV to offer MLB's "Extra Innings" package of out-of-market baseball games exclusively to DIRECTV subscribers.

I share your concerns regarding this proposed deal. I understand that the Extra Innings package, which includes dozens of out-of-market MLB games each week, has been available to 75 million MVPD subscribers for the last several years and would no longer be available to all MVPD subscribers if DIRECTV obtained rights from MLB.

I am concerned whenever consumers cannot purchase the programming they want or are forced to purchase programming they don't want.

As you request, we have contacted the parties and requested additional information about their proposed arrangement. Once we have this information, we will report to you on the deal's implications for consumers and any recommended changes to the law to ameliorate any harms to consumers.

Thank you for your interest in this matter. If I can be of further assistance with this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin J. Martin".

Kevin J. Martin
Chairman

Enclosures