



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Andrea Stewart-Cousins

Letter Urging WDC-CSC Agreement

ANDREA STEWART-COUSINS March 4, 2010

The Walt Disney Corporation
500 S. Buena Vista Street
Burbank, CA 91521-9722

Cablevision Systems, Corp.
1111 Stewart Avenue
Bethpage, NY 11714

RE: ONGOING CARRIAGE ISSUES

Dear Sirs:

It is my understanding that both of your companies are engaged in negotiations regarding the renewal of the retransmission consent agreement for WABC-TV in the New York market.

These are private negotiations between two companies, and as such, I am hopeful that you are able to reach a mutually beneficial outcome before your current contract expires on March 7, 2010, when ABC will air the Oscars. If you fail to do so, I would urge you to continue negotiations without depriving cable television customers in this market of their ability to view WABC-TV. Whether you do so pursuant to the terms of the expiring contract or to those that will govern your eventual agreement, I do not believe that your consumers should be treated like pawns in these discussions. I view this as a basic tenet of operating in the public interest.

I would be most appreciative if you would confirm with me at your earliest convenience that you share my views about the importance of leaving cable television customers out of your dispute, and committing that you will not withdraw or block programming until you have a new contract.