



**Minority Media &  
Telecom Council**

3636 16<sup>th</sup> Street N.W. Suite B-366  
Washington, D.C. 20010  
Phone: 202-332-0500 Fax: 202-332-0503  
[www.mmtconline.org](http://www.mmtconline.org)

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**Contact: David Honig  
President and Executive Director  
[dhonig@crosslink.net](mailto:dhonig@crosslink.net); (202) 332-7005**

## **MMTC COMMENDS FCC ON THE FUTURE OF MEDIA REPORT**

The Minority Media and Telecommunications Council (MMTC) commends the Federal Communications Commission for initiating the Future of Media Report that was released today.

MMTC associates itself with the Report's clarion call to reverse the low level of diversity in media ownership and employment and the Report's recognition that "greater minority ownership of media...would allow for more balanced depictions" of minorities. MMTC also joins the Report in expressing concern that the already low levels of minority ownership in traditional media are declining.

Among its many relevant insights, the Report recommends:

- That Congress reinstate the tax certificate policy, whereby companies selling media and telecommunications properties to minorities could defer capital gains tax on the sale – a policy that quintupled minority broadcast ownership in 17 years.
- Exploring the potential to use TV Channels 5 and 6 to expand radio ownership opportunities to new small businesses, including minority- and women-owned businesses – as MMTC has long recommended.
- Resolving long-outstanding confidentiality issues to restore EEO personnel reporting, which would provide reliable, transparent data on minority and women's participation in the media industries.
- Terminating the localism proceeding and avoiding rules that would impose a substantial burden or divert critical resources away from newsgathering.
- Encouraging foundation efforts to assist historically Black colleges and universities' journalism programs.

MMTC commends the Report as a positive step toward achieving a diverse media landscape and looks forward to working with the Commission to implement the Report's recommendations.

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