

HOWARD H. BAKER, JR., TENN.	CLAIBORNE PELL, R.I.
JESSE HELMS, N.C.	JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR., DEL.
RICHARD G. LUGAR, IND.	JOHN GLENN, OHIO
CHARLES MC C. MATHIAS, JR., MD.	PAUL S. SARBANES, MD.
NANCY L. KASSEBAUM, KANS.	EDWARD ZORINSKY, NEBR.
RUDY BOSCHWITZ, MINN.	PAUL E. TSONGAS, MASS.
LARRY PRESSLER, S. DAK.	ALAN CRANSTON, CALIF.
FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, ALASKA	CHRISTOPHER J. DODD, CONN.

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

June 7, 1983

EDWARD G. SANDERS, STAFF DIRECTOR
GERYLD B. CHRISTIANSON, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Committee on Foreign Relations

THROUGH: Ed Sanders and Jerry Christianson

FROM: Margaret Daly Hayes, Barry Sklar and Peter Galbraith

SUBJECT: Mark-up of S. 602/S. 659, Radio Broadcasting to Cuba (Radio Marti), on Wednesday, June 8, 1983, at 10 a.m., in Room SD-419

The Committee held a hearing on Radio Broadcasting to Cuba on April 27, 1983. S. 602 was introduced by Senator Hawkins on February 24, 1983, and S. 659 is the Administration bill introduced by Senator Percy (by request) on March 3, 1983. The Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives has also held hearings and will be marking-up its version of the bill simultaneously with this Committee.

Bill Summary: S. 602/S. 659

[A section-by-section summary of the bill is attached to this memorandum. The two bills are identical.]

The bill is a modified version of H.R. 5427, Radio Broadcasting to Cuba Act, which the Committee marked-up last year. H.R. 5427 passed the House of Representatives on August 10, 1982, by a vote of 250-134, but failed to come to a vote in the Senate during the final days of the 97th Congress.

S. 602/S. 659 provides for Board for International Broadcasting (BIB) oversight of Federally-funded radio broadcasting to Cuba, which should "serve as a consistently reliable and authoritative source of accurate, objective and comprehensive news" about Cuba and Cuban activities worldwide. The bill provides for leasing broadcast time from commercial stations or for using VOA/Marathon frequency 1180 AM.

Authorizing legislation for BIB does not presently include funding for radio broadcasting to Cuba. The Administration requested \$8,540,000 for FY 1983, \$9,647,000 for FY 1984, and \$10,120,000 for FY 1985. These amounts would have to be authorized in the bill by amendment.

Possible Amendments

Senator Pell: Expand VOA Programming as a substitute for Radio Marti

Senator Pell may offer an amendment that would expand Voice of America (VOA) programming to Cuba from its present five-and-one-half hours to 14 hours and incorporate the Radio Marti programming within the additional hours. Senator Pell's amendment would be less costly than the Administration's Radio Marti proposal (\$4 million versus \$10 million in FY 1984). In the 1960s and early 1970s, VOA did have special programming for Cuba in a format entitled "Cita con Cuba" (Appointment with Cuba). The Senate has twice approved proposals offered by Senator Helms to designate U.S. Government programming to Cuba (including VOA) as "Radio Free Cuba".

Senator Tsongas: Compensation of Broadcasters

Senator Tsongas may again offer an amendment that would provide for compensation of U.S. commercial AM broadcasters for any losses that they may incur from retaliatory jamming or counter-broadcasting by Cuba. The rationale for this amendment is that if the creation of Radio Marti is important to U.S. national interests, then the United States should be willing to pay the economic consequences of taking such action.

Attachment

ATTACHMENT

Section 1: Short Title - This section provides a short title of the "Radio Broadcasting to Cuba Act."

Section 2: Additional Purposes of Board for International Broadcasting - This section amends section 2 of the Board for International Broadcasting Act of 1973 by adding language stating that the Congress finds and declares that radio broadcasting to Cuba may be effective in furthering open communication of accurate information and ideas to the people of Cuba, and that such broadcasting to Cuba, operating in a manner not inconsistent with the broad foreign policy of the United States and in accordance with high professional standards, would be in the national interest.

Section 3: Additional Functions of the Board for International Broadcasting - Section 3 amends section 4 of the Board for International Broadcasting Act of 1973 to authorize the Board to provide for broadcasting to Cuba by means of grants, leases or contracts (subject to the availability of appropriations) or other such means. The section further provides that radio broadcasting to Cuba shall be a consistently reliable and authoritative source of accurate, objective and comprehensive news.

Moreover, the section provides that any broadcasting in Cuba on the AM frequency band (535 kHz to 1605 kHz) other than that provided through leasing of commercial or noncommercial education radio broadcasting stations shall be limited to the frequency used by the Voice of America at its Marathon, Florida, facilities (i.e., 1180 kHz) and provides that the VOA Marathon facility may be used for the purposes of radio broadcasting to Cuba under the act.

Section 4: Assistance from Other Government Agencies - Section 4 provides that any agency or instrumentality of the United States may sell, loan, lease, or grant property and perform services and technical support, on a reimbursable basis, to the Board for International Broadcasting to carry out the purposes of the Act.

Section 5: Merging of Boards of Directors - This section provides that to receive grants under the act, the Board of Directors of the Board for International Broadcasting must also be the Board of Directors of any corporation established to provide radio broadcasting to Cuba and that the Board of Directors shall make all major policy determinations concerning the operation of the corporation.