

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 62

To prevent the Federal Communications Commission from repromulgating the fairness doctrine.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 6, 2009

Mr. INHOFE introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

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## A BILL

To prevent the Federal Communications Commission from repromulgating the fairness doctrine.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Broadcaster Freedom  
5 Act of 2009”.

6 **SEC. 2. FAIRNESS DOCTRINE PROHIBITED.**

7 Title III of the Communications Act of 1934 is  
8 amended by inserting after section 303 (47 U.S.C. 303)  
9 the following new section:

1 **“SEC. 303A. LIMITATION ON GENERAL POWERS: FAIRNESS**  
2 **DOCTRINE.**

3 “Notwithstanding section 303 or any other provision  
4 of this Act or any other Act authorizing the Commission  
5 to prescribe rules, regulations, policies, doctrines, stand-  
6 ards, or other requirements, the Commission shall not  
7 have the authority to prescribe any rule, regulation, policy,  
8 doctrine, standard, or other requirement that has the pur-  
9 pose or effect of reinstating or repromulgating (in whole  
10 or in part) the requirement that broadcasters present op-  
11 posing viewpoints on controversial issues of public impor-  
12 tance, commonly referred to as the ‘Fairness Doctrine’,  
13 as repealed in General Fairness Doctrine Obligations of  
14 Broadcast Licensees, 50 Fed. Reg. 35418 (1985).”.

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