

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

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

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. INHOFE introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

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13 as repealed in General Fairness Doctrine Obligations of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).”.