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SENATOR BEUTLER: ...or rationales?

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: No. The original mandate or the original rationale was always a mandate, but it just became clearer on examination that the bill was much broader than the mandate that was being talked about.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. So the radio stations you determined had no federal mandate.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: They do not.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. So the only reason that we're dealing with this is because of the federal mandate.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Yes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Would that be accurate?

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: That is the rationale of the committee amendment.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. And did...and remind me with regard to the federal mandate did the federal government provide for any sort of exemptions or refunds or any considerations to these people that they put such a hardship on?

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: No.

SENATOR BEUTLER: No. And, to your knowledge, did the broadcasters or any of these folks who are required to switch to digital technology, did they apply to the federal government or seek redress to the federal government on this matter?

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: I'm not certain.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. The other thing, Senator, I wanted to ask you about, the starting date on the bill was July 1 of 1999, so apparently we are having some people who are making expenditures in this regard and apparently were willing to make them even though there was no provision for state refund of the