

[REDACTED]
Marietta, Georgia 30060
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June 10, 1993

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C-SPAN
400 N. Capitol St. NW
Washington, DC 20001

Dear C-SPAN:

I am an avid viewer and one of your biggest fans. Thank you for your quality programming and public service. Because we are bombarded by so much junk commercial programming, information overflow and squeezed by time pressures, demands and constraints, I feel very strongly that your channels provide a critical service in bringing government and related programming to the public in this telecommunication age. My cable system just recently added C-SPAN2 after several months of intense lobbying on my part for which I am most grateful. I must confess that live programming of Congress and especially the United States Senate offers as much pure entertainment viewing as public information.

I occasionally have the opportunity to view live congressional coverage during the day and find that my nighttime television viewing habits are increasingly dictated by your program schedule. I frequently program my VCR to tape hearings broadcast on your overnight schedule.

My parents' cable system does not carry either C-SPAN channel which irritates and concerns me greatly. Please advise me of your position on mandatory availability and offer any suggestions other than the "squeaky wheel" convention of applying pressure to this cable system.

Finally, I would appreciate information related to the various publications available from you especially those related to congressional member information and parliamentary rules governing the operations of both houses of Congress.

Please review the enclosed suggestions which would significantly increase the value I receive from your programming.

As a proud University of Georgia graduate, I commend the University School of Journalism and congratulate you on your Peabody award. It is richly deserved.

Very truly yours,
[REDACTED]

Technical Training & Consulting
Accounting • Computers

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Programming suggestions:

1. A nightly legislative active summary report for both houses at a regularly scheduled time to keep track of congressional activity
 - a. Information on that day's legislative agenda including debate, amendments, passage, defeat, etc.
 - b. A summary report of that day's scheduled committee hearings' with information on subject, witnesses, etc. with planned rebroadcast information for taping purposes.
 - c. The next day's scheduled legislative agenda and scheduled committee hearings.
2. Add to your Sunday Journal program which I faithfully watch and enjoy thoroughly a weekly summary of legislative activity and committee hearings.
3. More information on your weekend scheduling at a specific time perhaps on Friday night and Saturday and Sunday mornings for viewing or taping purposes.
4. Some cross scheduling information between C-SPAN and C-SPAN2.
5. More frequent scheduling information updates during broadcasts and estimated time schedules of pending debate, votes, etc. during live session coverage of the House and Senate.
6. Amendment summaries of Senate action during debate and voting similar to summaries given of House activities.

I appreciate that your schedule is constantly changing due to your commitment to carry live coverage of the House and Senate when in session. I also appreciate that you are confined by limited resources. However, I am often frustrated when I find I have missed an event because of my schedule and by simply not knowing it was being broadcast.

One final comment. It is insulting when many of your guests brush off an issue by stating, "It's complicated," and offer no further explanation or ramification of the issues involved. Please remind them that this conveys one of the following:

1. They do not understand the issue.
2. They are not capable of discussing the issue in terms the general public can reasonably understand.
3. They perceive that your audience is too stupid to understand even if they could explain or discuss the issue.

Thanks again for your excellent programming and exemplary public service.

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