

As a Massachusetts locally owned and operated AM station I am inclined to comment on the current FM translator proposal. WARE - 1250 broadcasts local programming including sports, music and local talk shows. I am unable to cover some of my communities due to poor coverage. Changing the rules to allow FM translators would allow sports and other meaningful community programming to be heard in their cars and in their homes without interference and poor signal.

As a 5kw day and 2500 watt night, I change direction for a number of my adjacent communities. I am able to adequately serve these communities at day, but am lost during night hours. How embarrassing that we can't be heard 6 miles from our city of license! Much of my programming in the winter months (when we reduce power) is lost to these surrounding communities. That means no high school sports, no town meetings, none of the programming which keeps us local!

We are proud to be local, proud to broadcast what the "big box" radio stations won't. Approving FM translators would provide some relief to the contours. I believe the FCC has forgotten local radio in a rush to conglomerations and consolidation. Truly local programming is still practiced by those that believe we are here to serve the public interest, not pad our pockets. And believe me, the pockets at WARE are not lined in silver! AM is not a dinosaur, it is not a dog, it is my livelihood. I ask for a fair playing field, nothing more. Give us a fair playing field by passing the FM translator rule. It sure would make a difference for me and WARE, MA. Thank you.