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Public Works for a Better Government

September 19, 2011

Honorable Daniel E. Lungren, Chairman
Committee on House Administration
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Lungren:

Thanks for taking the time to meet with me regarding the project we've been working on to make video from congressional hearings more accessible. At your suggestion, I'm summarizing the 3 requests we made:

- Public.Resource.Org worked with the House Broadcast Studio to make copies of a substantial portion of their archives. We have 3,374 files already copied. We'd like to finish the job and would appreciate it if they would make the rest of the DVDs and disks available for copying.
- There is a vetted proposal on the table that would make live broadcast-quality streams of up to 24 simultaneous channels available for multicast on the Internet 2 backbone beginning in January. This proposal would be at no cost to the government and does not preclude any other parallel activities to make this video available through distribution channels such as the Library of Congress, houlive.gov, or any other venues. Indeed, we encourage such parallel activities.
- Public.Resource.Org would be more than happy to furnish a copy of the archives we have assembled of House hearings to the Library of Congress or other institutions that would be able to preserve such archives on a permanent basis.

Thanks again for your time. It has been a pleasure to work with House staff this year and I think we've made some real progress on making these materials from the People's House more broadly available to all Americans.

Best regards,

Carl Malamud
Public.Resource.Org