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Advocacy in Washington D.C. & NAB SLC

Tuesday, February 28th, Vermont broadcasters and members of the VAB Board of Directors participated in the NAB State Leadership Conference (SLC) in Washington D.C. This year's event was held at Nationals Ballpark and featured keynotes by Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) and Rep. Kathy Castor (D-FL).

During SLC, broadcasters got updates on Federal issues from the NAB Government Relations team, including:

- Local Radio Freedom Act (LRFA), which combats the harmful performance royalty proposed on radio in the American Music Fairness Act (AMFA).
- Rollout of ATSC 3.0 (aka NextGenTV) and how the FCC can support the transition.
- Disappearance of AM radio receivers from not just electric vehicle dashboards, but also in new model cars and trucks with traditional combustion engines.
- Importance of and support for Local Journalism
- Diversity Tax Certificate Program to encourage station ownership by minorities.



After learning about the issues, broadcasters went to Capitol Hill to meet with Vermont's members of congress.

Vermont's delegation was warmly welcomed by Senator Peter Welch, who seemed to understand the challenges our industry faces and reaffirmed his support for local journalism.

Vermont's new Representative Becca Balint had already gone home due to a shorten week in session, so broadcasters met with her Legislative Director instead to introduce issues that effect us.

Normally Senator Bernie Sanders does not take meetings with any special interest groups and leaves that to his staff, who were a pleasure to meet with and talk to.

But a chance meeting in an elevator as we were leaving took all of us, including Senator Sanders, by suprise! The

Senator joked that we could have a press conference! Thanks to his wife who wanted a picture, we were able to capture the moment!



(R-L) Dave Goddette, Ryan Rothstein, Wendy Mays, Senator Sanders, Jay Barton, Alex von Lichtenberg

VAB Annual Meeting, EAS Operator Summit, Station Leader Assembly & Legislative Mixer



Wednesday, February 22nd, the VAB held a first-ever event of its kind at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Montpelier.

Attended by a total of 50 invited radio and television station representatives, this multi-faceted meeting accomplished four main objectives:

- 1) An Annual Meeting where a slate of board members for the two-year term starting July 1, 2023 was voted in, the budget year-to-date was reviewed and the [annual report](#) was presented.
- 2) An EAS Operator Summit to discuss VT's EAS Plan monitoring assignments, required software upgrades, and FCC issues that effect stations.
- 3) A Station Leader Assembly, where owners and GMs of Vermont's radio and television stations participated in a roundtable to discuss ways to deal with the challenges all broadcasters are facing.
- 4) A mixer where broadcasters were able to get to know about 20 state senators and representatives who attended and explain how radio and TV stations serve their constituents.

Digital Marketing Webinar On Demand



LBS Digital Expert, [Greg Gibbons](#), presents a series on how managers and sellers can come to a practical and useful understanding of how to integrate digital into their station's selling culture.

WATCH ON
DEMAND

Broadcast Job Openings Around Vermont



Broadcast Engineer - Transmitter, News Producer, Morning Edition, Data Journalist, Digital Producer, Event Producer, Production Technician

Account Executive

Multi-media Journalist, Director/Technical Media Producer, Photographer/Editor, Account Executive



COMMITTED TO OUR COMMUNITY



Director of Sales, Summer News Intern, Meteorologist, Multimedia Journalist, Account Executive, News Producer, Assignment Editor, Reporter, Anchor, Receptionist/Sales Assistant, Chief Photographer

Multimedia Journalist, Meteorologist, Photographer News Intern, Associate Producer, Producer, Administrative Assistant, Chief Photographer, Sales Account Associate

Utilizing your state broadcasters association to post job openings earns you EEO Credit! If you have a job opening you would like the VAB to publicize, simply email a description to vab@vab.org

This Week at the FCC



Every week, the attorneys at [Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP](#) in Washington D.C. provide a summary of the regulatory and legal actions of significance to broadcasters within the FCC. They also provide links to information about how these actions may affect your operations. Read this week's summary as well as summaries from past weeks at:

<https://vab.org/this-week-at-the-fcc>

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