

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 24, 2011

Mr. Stephen B. Burke
Chief Executive Officer
NBCUniversal, LLC
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, NY 10112

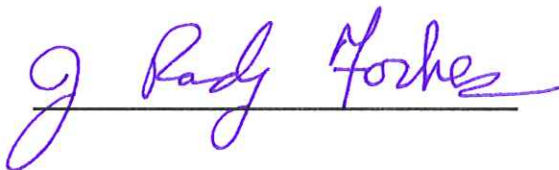
Dear Mr. Burke,

We are writing to express our serious concern about NBC's decision to omit "under God" from the Pledge of Allegiance twice during the June 19, 2011 broadcast of the U.S. Open. The video montage containing the omissions, intended to celebrate American patriotism, instead alienated millions of viewers who place great value on all of our nation's proud history-including its religious heritage.

After viewing the video montage, it seems clear that the back-to-back omissions of "under God, indivisible," and "one nation under God, indivisible" from recitations of the Pledge were not inadvertent. Although we are aware that NBC has apologized for the omissions, we are concerned that the video was allowed to air with the altered Pledge of Allegiance in the first place. The video was undoubtedly approved by NBC officials prior to airing, and it is troubling that the network allowed these patently offensive omissions to proceed. The decision is even more offensive, given that in 1954, Congress amended the Pledge specifically to add "under God," the very words that NBC excluded.

As Members of Congress, we are disturbed that the official Pledge of our nation was altered in this way. We live in a society where there are increasing efforts to remove all mention of religion from public life, and we remain dedicated to defending against such attempts. As a key player in shaping the national dialogue through various media outlets, we are interested to know what steps NBC has taken to prevent America's religious heritage from being obscured in this manner. We request that you implement a policy to ensure that the Pledge of Allegiance is not altered in future broadcasts.

Sincerely,





Jill Miller FL-01

Martha Raley AL-02

Bob Byrd UT

Sam Eubank NC-02

Mike Ennis OH-3

[Signature] MI-FL

Joe Wilson SC-02

[Signature] SC-3

D Brent WA-8

Joy Pitts PA-16

Cathy Rogers WA-05

Chris Smith

Dan Rostenkowski MS-01

[Signature] TX-2

Allen Bester FL-22

Pat Allen TX-22

[Signature] FL 15

[Signature] MI-07

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Bob Mallett

John Callahan

Frank Stankus

Frank R. Leary

John Klein

Harold A. Kelly
MS-7

Robert

Ron E. Jasso

Bob Wittman

Gene Schmidt

Paul Lucas

Andreas

AFJ TNS

Gregg Hansen MS-3

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Francis No-02

Mike G AL-3

R. T. G TX-11

Bill Cassidy LA-06

Switzer

Rodney Alexander LA-5

W. R. R FC-02

Denny Rehberger

W. R. S IN-3

Virginia Foxx

Ji Jordan OH-4

Curt Stearns

Jim R SC-1

H. G. MO TX-26

W. C. C. MO-2

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Blaine Lunt TX-27

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See Myrick

Vicky Hartzler - MO-4

Boehlert NY-5

Tom Swinerton Ind

Steve King IA-5

Al Witt

Dem GT Harper PA-05

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Frank Jones KY-04

W. B. Latta LA-7

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Lamar Smith, TX-21

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Paul C Brown GA10

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Mike No MD-01

Randynn TX-19

Jim Hudzamp KS07

Steve Pearse NM-02

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Mac Kelly TX-13

Thomas Trice GA06

David Carlock PA-6

Al Miller FL8

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John 053

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