FISH HOEK VALLEY RATEPAYERS & RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

(Incorporating Fish Hoek, Clovelly and Sun Valley)
65B Central Circle, Fish Hoek 7975

Web: https://www.fhvrra.org.za/ Facebook: www.facebook.com/FHVRRA/

Heritage Western Cape: Conservation Body

TO: THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND DIGITAL

TECHNOLOGIES

THEMBINKOSI NGOMA tngoma@parliament.gov.za

SUBJECT: COMMENTS ON SOUTH AFRICAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

SOC LTD BILL [B32-2023]

DUE DATE: 16 JANUARY 2024

The Fish Hoek Valley Ratepayers & Residents Association (FHVRRA) feels that any State Owned Entity (SOE) that makes a financial loss (ex. R1.2 billion during the 2022/23 financial year) should be immediately dissolved. That is, the South African Broadcasting Corporation should be disbanded with immediate effect. Like other SOEs, the SABC was captured by Hlaudi Motsoeneng. We, the citizens of South Africa, don't need or want to bail out another failed SOE. Where was governance then?

Any funding should be provided by advertising, not TV licences. Just half of African and Asian countries have TV licences. The Netherlands moved away from this antiquated fee collection system in 2000 and Portugal in 1992. Please remove Section 5 (d) and (e) and Section 39.

No audience? Who actually listens to SA FM or watches SABC? The SABC has served its useful role in a nation undergoing transition, but that role is no longer required.

Alternatives: Via social media, news reporting by the SABC has become superfluous and has not always been unbiased. The local film industry is starting to produce international worthy viewing offerings (Netflix, etc.) and doesn't need the SABC crutch.

Please consider this comments letter as one of the inputs of public opinion as required in this bill's section 7. (10).

NAME & SURNAME	Brian Youngblood, Chair: Fish Hoek Valley Residents and Ratepayers Association (FHVRRA)
CONTACT NUMBER	Cell: 084 399 9933
E-MAIL ADDRESS	FishHoekRRA@gmail.com
SIGNATURE	HISTORY AS ACTIVITION
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