

# Biden's baffling FCC delay could give Republicans a 2-1 FCC majority | Ars Technica

By Jon Brodtkin

September 15, 2021

President Joe Biden's failure to nominate a fifth Federal Communications Commission member has forced Democrats to work with a 2-2 deadlock instead of the 3-2 majority the president's party typically enjoys at the FCC. But things could get worse for Democrats starting in January. If Biden doesn't make his choice quickly enough to get Senate confirmation by the end of this year, *Republicans* could get a 2-1 FCC majority despite Democrats controlling both the White House and Senate.

That possibility can be easily averted if Biden and the Senate spring into action, but it's closer to becoming a reality than anyone expected when Biden became president. The reason is that acting FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel's term expired in mid-2020. US law allows commissioners on lapsed terms to stay until "the expiration of the session of Congress that begins after the expiration of the fixed term," which means she can stay until the beginning of January 2022.

[...]

Source: [Biden's baffling FCC delay could give Republicans a 2-1 FCC majority | Ars Technica](#)