

To those it may concern,

My name is Lindsey Snider and I would like to express my immense disapproval of the Federal Communications Commission proposed Third Report and Order requiring Local Franchising Authorities to treat cable-related, in-kind contributions as franchise fees subject to the statutory five percent franchise fee cap.

I live in Chelmsford, Massachusetts and am currently enrolled as a Junior at Chelmsford High School. I have worked with Chelmsford Telemedia, our town's local television station, for three years. Even before I started working directly with them CTM has always had an impressionable importance in our town and has been for a considerably long time. CTM films a broad range of events around town such as town meetings and elections, various performances, and our town's own authentic shows. This filing would be detrimental to our town and the ability of CTM to continue operating as such. Budget cuts may and will in some capacity prevent us from being able to do so if we do not have the funds for repairs and crucial equipment. Though CTM is extremely lucky to be operating with some volunteer support and some profit, there is no telling how devastating this order would be to even smaller local stations that are extremely dependent on this funding.

With my time working with CTM, as a school club, I have learned and explored the intricacy of television production. I am also involved with the technical crew for theatre at our high school and have enhanced my skills in audio with CTM. I know many classmates and other fellow students that have decided to study communications and media and go into a career in television production because of the learning opportunity CTM gives to the community. There's even a strong community with CTM itself that has reaped me with some of the best friendships and feeling of community I have ever felt in an organization or club. It pains me to think that others would not be able to have this opportunity due to these budget cuts.

As a town, we rely heavily on CTM broadcasts to unite us. Some examples of these broadcasts include the Fourth of July parade and annual John Carson Race, town hall meetings and elections, theatre and school performances, and sports games like football. I know classmates who are on the football team, like many others in different sports, who have family that live too far away or are sick and elderly for example and unfortunately cannot attend these events. If it is a town meeting or election, it informs residents about important town happenings and otherwise active local democracy. This situation extends to all the broadcasts listed previously. These broadcasts deliver these experiences to people who are missing to those who cannot be there in person. It also provides an opportunity of reflection to those involved for improvement or even a feeling of nostalgia. Nevertheless, these broadcasts can be an extremely powerful tool.

CTM broadcasts and local broadcasts across the nation are much more than any big broadcasting corporation like NBC or ABC. It directly creates community and connections among future friends, current friends, family, and a local government and its residents. This is at risk. As a nation, we need to utilize and invest in local democracy because it is an extremely delicate, useful, and unique tool. It is one of the only forms of media where it is built by and communicated with everyday Americans. I ask that this decision to exclude partial funding to local broadcasting stations be reevaluated and overturned. I hope you take my letter into

consideration as this filing has great meaning to my community and town. I sincerely thank you for you time.

Yours respectfully,
Lindsey Snider