

November 14, 2018

The Honorable Ajit V. Pai
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
455 12th Street, Southwest
Washington, DC, 20544

Dear Chairman Pai,

We would like express our concern about the tentative conclusions set forth in the FCC's September 25 Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making in *Implementation of Section 621(a)(1) of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 as Amended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992*, MB Docket 05- 311.

The Education Channel subcommittee of the City of Nashua Cable Television Advisory Board is charged with oversight and operation of our education channel - Nashua ETV. We provide a vital link to the community with live coverage of the Nashua Board of Education and its numerous committees, local scholastic sports and various educational programs.

Like many communities, Nashua has seen a shrinking media base with continuing cuts at the local newspaper and consolidation of local radio stations. This shrinking attention by the commercial media has left a void in many communities, including Nashua. Our Government, Public and Education (PEG) channels in Nashua are at times the only source for local information for many residents. Any changes in Franchise Fees and the way they are calculated would have a devastating effect on our ability to serve the community.

Our presence enables the residents of Nashua to watch uniquely local programming about their community and local events and issues of interest to them. And that was the intent of the PEG provisions of the 1984 Cable Act – to enhance local voices, serve local community needs and interests, and strengthen our local democracy. By defining “franchise fee” in an overly broad fashion to include “in-kind” support, the FCC’s proposals will shift the fair balance between cable franchising authorities and cable operators and will force communities to choose between franchise fees and PEG channels, – something that was never the intent of the Act.

We appreciate your consideration and hope you will work to protect PEG channels in our community and others by further reviewing many of the proposals in the Further Notice.

Sincerely,

Stacy Hynes, Chairman
Education Channel Sub Committee of the Cable Television Advisory Board
City of Nashua, NH

CC: The Honorable Michael O’Rielly, Commissioner
The Honorable Brendan Carr, Commissioner
The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner