

November 17, 2018

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

Dear Chairman Pai,

We write to express our concern about and disapproval of the proposals and 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.

We live in Ashland, Massachusetts. For 27 years, we have owned a small business with 12 employees. When we are not working, we volunteer on various local committees such as the business association, Ashland Day and the substance abuse coalition. We are very busy and rely on our local cable station, WACA-TV, to keep us up to date on local government. We cannot always attend some of the activities in town but we do take time to watch Ashland sports events, plays and concerts on cable.

What we find most important to watch are the shows that highlight controversial topics such as the recent medical and recreational marijuana vote. These unbiased shows allow thoughtful and educational discussion on crucial issues in our community. Viewers are able to ask questions by emailing or calling the station while the show is being broadcast live. Because of WACA-TV, we make educated decisions on how we vote.

This local presence enables the residents of Ashland 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 protect PEG channels in our community and others by choosing not to adopt many of the proposals in the Further Notice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ed and Claude Rose". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first names "Ed" and "Claude" clearly legible, followed by the surname "Rose".

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