Attention: Federal Communication Commission

Reference: Proceedings 05-311

Dear Commission Members:

I am a retired Associate Professor opf Mass Media and Broadcasting. In addition I am a former Broadcast Journalist who practiced both in Canada and the United States. I write today to protest and oppose the proposed rule changes to wit "(Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making (FNPRM) on Cable Franchising). As I understand it this proceeding seeks to redefine in kind services that have traditionally enabled free cable and Internet service to schools and libraries, the ability to send live signals out during community meetings, and even local access channels.

Such a restriction would only serve to limit free speech which is guaranteed by the First Amendment. Local Access Television serves an essential public need to freely and openly express opinion about local, state and national issues. The ability of Local Access Television to raise funds and support directly from its publics, including of the 'in-kind' variety is crucial for the maintenance of this kind of public access.

If the FCC is desirous of making any decision about Local Access Television, it should be an unequivocal ruling that preserves Local Access Television as an example of Public Good. Any other ruling will serve only to precipitate a serious and significant decline in the balancing qualities of public access communication.

Respectfully submitted

Ron Stotyn, PhD

21 Bernard Street

Winooski VT 05404