



Indian Hill High School

6865 Drake Road, Cincinnati, OH 45243 (513) 272-4550 (Fax) 272-4557
<http://www.indianhillschools.org/hs>

NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

Indian
Hill
Exempted
Village
School
District

Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
455 12th Street, Southwest
Washington, DC, 20544

Dear Chairman,

I am writing to support the Comments of the Cable Act Preservation Alliance (“CAPA”) and to oppose 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.

I have been working with PEG Access TV Channels with ICRC in Cincinnati Ohio for the past 25 years. I was interested in learning about producing video programs for our Indian Hill High School, so in 1994 I attended a Public Access Center Meeting at Norwood High School. There I met several TV Access programming leaders in our community and learned how our Access Center could help me get started. I attended several workshops after that at the ICRC studio and learned the basics and received my operator license to sign out equipment. I began borrowing equipment to produce some school musical performances that were played back on the Access Channel TV channels. Our students, parents and community were thrilled to see this on their home televisions.

As time and technology advanced, so did my desire to produce more school programs to share with our community. The ICRC has been my partner throughout this evolution and are still supporting my program every chance possible. Over the years with the help of the ICRC, our school administration and parents, I have built a production system at Indian Hill High School that allows us to produce just about anything we might want. We now have a studio in the building and a remote production system for sports and musical performances. There are over 75 students involved in my video program. The ICRC also covers some of our sports programs at away venues where we can’t take our equipment. Some of my students have volunteered to work these events with the ICRC professionals to continue to learn about this powerful communications industry. I and my school community are eternally grateful for the support and training of the ICRC. Losing this would not only be detrimental to this area but to me personally, and a lot of people like myself.

Our area needs this access to bring quality programs that would never be seen or covered without PEG Access. I am opposed to the passage of this provision. Greater Cincinnati is a better community because of PEG at the ICRC.

Local Public, Educational, and Governmental, (PEG) Access channels provide a wide range of local programming about our community, which is a valuable service to

Southwestern Ohio residents, community organizations, and viewers. Our local PEG TV studio at the Intercommunity Cable Regulatory Commission also provides access to a professional studio, editing and field equipment for local residents, schools, and community organizations, who would not otherwise have access to such facilities, as well as much needed training and guidance. They have also awarded Grant Funding for schools in their coverage area to help them produce their own educational programming to be shared with the community.

Local PEG programming includes coverage of high school and college football and basketball games, swimming and diving and other sports, as well as many community events. The PEG channels air numerous local government meetings every month, as well as Greater Cincinnati election programs and results. The channels also broadcast local music and entertainment, documentaries, and public affairs shows, as well as information about local community service organizations and agencies, and issues of interest to Greater Cincinnati.

Promoting such diversity of views and information through local PEG programming was one of congress' specific stated intents of the Cable Act. The FCC's proposed FNPRM goes against this stated intent, and would force communities to choose between franchise fees and PEG channels, which would cripple and very likely eliminate the PEG channels in most communities across the country, since most cities will not be able to afford the loss in fees. The loss of franchise fees would also eliminate the main source of operational funding for PEG channels in most communities. This has never been the way the law worked for decades and was never the intent of the Act.

We appreciate your consideration and urge the FCC to protect PEG channels and funding in our community and others by choosing not to adopt the Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making.

Sincerely,

Dennis Dupps

Indian Hill High School

6865 Drake Road

Cincinnati, Ohio 45243

513-272-4590