

Dec 5, 2018

The Honorable Ajit Pai, Chairman

The Honorable Michael O'Rielly, Commissioner

The Honorable Brendan Carr, Commissioner

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner

Chairman

Federal Communications Commission

[455 12th Street, Southwest](https://maps.google.com/?q=455+12th+Street,+Southwest+Washington,+DC,+20544&entry=gmail&source=g)

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Dear Chairman Pai,

I write to support the Comments of the Cable Act Preservation Alliance ("CAPA") and to disapprove 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.

First and foremost I would like to thank the FCC for its many years of support to local media. As you are aware there are many residents’ that depend on (SMC) Somerville Media Center for information that we would never received locally. It brings us in touch with local government and keeps our legislators on their toes because they know that all meetings and hearings are aired on cable public access. I lived in a world where there was no transparency growing up in the 50s, 60s and 70s. Public access is a game changer for everyone and it benefits all. If it were not for public access TV we would return to the dark ages of politics where the public was left out of the process.

I have had the distinct pleasure of working with all of the people from SMC and they are dedicated to the cause. Many are students and volunteers as well at the director, program director, technical etc. They are consummate professionals that have given me an opportunity to interview people in the city that have struggled in everyday life in the world of labor. I believe that shows such as the one I host is unfiltered and unrehearsed. It gives our viewers an opportunity to see our guests as they are and what they are doing to help the community.

In closing, I cannot imagine our city without this valuable resource. I support SMC and give whatever I can to help the cause. You must think of the younger people that now have had this great opportunity and privilege to be educated. Don’t allow this to be taken away and revert back to a time misinformation with little communication to the public.

I have been a cable subscriber since the early 1970s and gladly pay my cable bill along with all of the fees because I believe in the tremendous value that Somerville Media Center has provided the residents with, however I would refuse to receive any further services from my cable TV provider if the law is changed. I will cancel my subscription. I have always considered cable companies to be part of the community they serve. I also believe that cable companies have made a very good living in the world of communications’. I find it very difficult to believe that they need even more of my money.

Let’s continue to be open and transparent by giving the public the ability to continue to be part of the process and galvanize as a community.

I disapprove of the proposals and tentative conclusions set forth.

Thank you

Edward Halloran President of the Somerville Municipal Employees Association

Host of the Somerville Labor Show

“In Unity There is Strength”