

December 7, 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
Washington, DC, 20544

Dear Chairman Pai,

I am writing to support the Comments of the Lake Champlain Access Television, Inc. ("LCATV," File ID 1031754013658) 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.

I live in a community with a strong public access television service that many rely on to learn about what is happening in their community. LCATV helps community members go beyond headlines and hear directly from community leaders, elected officials, and others about the issues that are important to their day-to-day lives. On occasion, I've been on LCATV programs to speak about food insecurity in our communities and have been heartened by the number of people I've talked with who said that they saw me on TV and that it helped them better understand an issue. During local election seasons, LCATV programs and debates help me learn about candidates and decide who to vote for. I wouldn't be able to make as informed of a decision when voting without LCATV.

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

Sincerely,

Faye Mack
Winooski, VT