

December 9, 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 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Southwest  
Washington, DC, 20544

Dear Chairman Pai,

We write to support the Comments of the Cable Act Preservation Alliance (“CAPA,” File ID 1114050901562) 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.

The Bellows Free Academy girls and boys ice hockey teams and Northwest Access TV have developed a strong relationship by providing quality video & audio recordings for local high school ice hockey competitions for almost 20 years. Bellows Free Academy is the public high school in St. Albans, VT. Our community has always shown strong support for supporting local high school athletes. With the ability to have games broadcast on TV as well as live coverage in recent years our community has been able to continue to support our hockey teams and develop an appreciation for public access TV. Many community members unable to attend the games have benefited from watching the games.

This local presence enables the residents of the greater St. Albans, Vermont area 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,

Luke Cioffi, Bellows Free Academy Comet Ice Hockey Coach

