December 11, 2018

Federal Communications Commission

Dear Sir/ Madam

This letter is in regards to proceeding 05-311 regarding the funding of local cable access television stations. As the Fire Chief for a community of 25,000 I have found our local access station, WCAT, to be a great community partner. WCAT provides important service to Wakefield, including the live televising of our open Town Meetings, Town Council meeting and other pertinent committee and board meetings in town. This coverage is essential to keep our citizens informed regarding their town government. Many citizens may be housebound and as such not capable of attending these meetings in person. WCAT provides a vital role in allowing these citizens input into the daily governmental decision making process of Wakefield.

WCAT also does a fantastic job of covering civic events such as the Memorial Day and Veteran’s Day ceremonies as well as our annual Fourth of July parade in Wakefield. These events can be viewed by members of the audience who are disabled and not able to attend them in person. There are many historical, political, and informational programs offered by WCAT that promote the many positive destinations in Wakefield as well as numerous forums to discuss issues important to Wakefield’s citizens.

I am strongly opposed to any measure or regulation that would cut public funding to local access stations such as WCAT. Please contact me at (781) 246-6435 or via email at [msullivan@wakefield.ma.us](mailto:msullivan@wakefield.ma.us) with any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Chief Michael J. Sullivan

Wakefield Fire Department