

HETA

Higher Education Television Authority

December 11, 2018

The Honorable Ajit Pai
The Honorable Michael O'Rielly, Commissioner
The Honorable Brendan Carr, Commissioner
The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
455 12th Street, Southwest
Washington, DC, 20544

RE: MB Docket No 05-311 In the Matter of 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

Dear Chairperson and Commissioners:

On behalf of the Grand Rapids Higher Education channel, I am writing to express opposition to the proposed rule that would allow for in-kind services to count against franchise fees.

Our channel, which has board members from local colleges and universities (Grand Rapids Community College, Grand Valley State University, Ferris State University, Calvin College, Kuyper College, Aquinas and Kendall College) rely on the level of equipment funding to keep our channel operational. Every one of the institutions participating has depended upon those funds to purchase equipment that provides a window into the activities of each college.

As you might notice, this group of colleges represents both public and private, secular and religious, working together to make the most of the limited funds allotted annually. We hope those funds won't be decreased in any way, and we ask that the Second Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making not be adopted.

Thank you for your consideration.

Klaas Kwant
Higher Education Television Authority Board Chair

The Higher Education Television Authority has representation from and airs the programming of Calvin College, Aquinas College, Ferris State University, Kendall College of Art & Design, Grand Rapids Community College, Grand Valley State University and Kuyper College