



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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DANIEL M. DONAHUE
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
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December 12, 2018

The Honorable Ajit Pai, Chairman
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

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of the constituents of my district, I am writing to express extreme opposition to the proposed rule being considered by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). I oppose the tentative conclusions the FCC reaches in the proceeding because of their impacts on my community.

Public Educational and Government (PEG) Access and community television such as WCCA TV serve an important role in informing viewers of local issues, which are so important to their everyday lives.

This local presence encourages viewers in Worcester, MA to watch cable television as was intended by the 1984 Cable Act – by enhancing local voices, serving local viewers and strengthening our local democracy. By defining “in-kind” support in an overly broad fashion, the rule making will shift the fair balance between local and state authorities and cable operators and will force communities to choose between franchise fees and PEG channels which was never the intent of the Act.

By allowing cable operators to reduce franchise fee support for local communities if they opt for local channels, the FNPRM diminishes the ability of PEG channels to serve communities such as ours.

To this end, I ask that it not be adopted because it will have negative impacts to my constituents and individuals across the Commonwealth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. M. Donahue", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Daniel M. Donahue
State Representative
16th Worcester District