

12 December 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

I am writing in support of the Comments in this proceeding submitted by Access Humboldt in the Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. Those Comments raise important issues and concerns that we share with regard to federal preemption of local jurisdictions and the future of our freedom of information and expression.

As a member of the League of Women Voters which is a strong advocate for freedom of speech, freedom of expression, and transparency in government.

The proposed findings in this proceeding are misinformed and will harm the public interest by reducing local voices and diminishing broadband media resources available in our community.

In Humboldt County California, the benefits of community access media serve the public interest directly by providing a free and open platform for non-commercial speech.

Local community access channels and other in-kind public benefits are part of a social contract that local jurisdictions have with commercial cable TV operators as intended when Congress set up the Cable Act. These local resources are very important to our community.

By allowing cable operators to reduce franchise fee support for local communities’ access channels, the FNPRM as drafted will diminish the ability of PEG channels to serve communities such as ours.

Restricting our County and Cities will harm media localism and diversity - as a result, our community suffers. So we ask that these proposals not be adopted.

Sincerely,

Patricia-Anne WinterSun, member of the League of Women Voters of Humboldt County California