



Town of Dennis

December 12, 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 12th Street, Southwest
Washington, DC, 20544

Dear Chairman Pai,

We write to support the Comments of the Cable Act Preservation Alliance ("CAPA") 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.

In the Town of Dennis we are a community of 13,992 (2017 census) with 7,718 of those over 55 years old that we service. We provide government programming 24 hours a day. There are over a dozen regular meetings that are bi-weekly or monthly. Our channel has at least one live event most weeks Monday – Thursday with repeats during the other hours. In addition we offer a community bulletin board which highlights events around the town. In the case of an emergency event the town channel can be used as a tool to keep the residents up to date and offer information on how to stay safe.

This past year we introduced a weekly roundup show called 'Dennis This Week'. This program has been used to keep the public informed on town events and highlights of board meetings that past week.

This local presence enables the residents of our Town of Dennis, Barnstable County 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 channels in our community and others by choosing not to adopt many of the proposals in the Further Notice.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Sullivan
Town Administrator
Town of Dennis

Dan Proto
MIS Director
Town of Dennis

Jeff Clough
Media Specialist
Town of Dennis