177 Babcock St. Unit 1  
Brookline, MA 02446  
December 13, 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

Dear Chairman Pai,

I 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.

I am a citizen member of Brookline’s Cable Television Advisory Committee. As a committee member, I have been involved in negotiations with cable television providers over their license renewal. I have seen firsthand the importance of community media.

Brookline’s community media plays an important role in the town. With a Town Meeting structure, political involvement in Brookline governance is high, and our local community media covers many town government meetings. The Town needs to retain channels that make it possible for all citizens to see its government in action. The free access available to other municipal organizations offers opportunities for training for new job opportunities and for students to pursue initiatives in developing programing. The FCC proposal would significantly reduce the town’s ability to provide local programming.

It is also important for municipalities to have leverage in negotiating with cable companies because cable providers affect the way the community looks. Over the years cable companies have made expanded use of the public right of way by stringing more substantial, unsightly cables and placing large utility boxes on utility poles. Municipalities are not adequately compensated for the adverse impact on the streetscape. In general, municipalities need more leverage in negotiating with cable companies.

I urge you to keep the current franchise fee structure that makes it possible for municipalities to support community media.

Sincerely,

Melissa Trevvett