The Honorable Ajit V. Pai, Chairman

455 12th Street, Southwest

Washington, D.C. 20544

**Re: FCC docket “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 No. 05-311)**

Dear Chairman Pai:

**We write to express our deep concern about the harm that could be inflicted in communities and municipalities by Commission decisions in MB Docket No. 05-311.** Specifically, we believe the outcome of this proceeding could jeopardize vital funding for our public, educational, and governmental (PEG) stations.

As you know, PEG stations like ours here in Midland, Michigan provide Americans with dynamic opportunities to connect with each other and their local governments that are not otherwise available. They provide coverage of local government meetings, news from college and K-12 campuses, commercial-free and locally produced content, and emergency alerts and directives. **We are deeply concerned that the outcome of this proposal could jeopardize these important services.**

Under the Communications Act, local governments can require as part of cable franchise agreements that cable operators meet demonstrated community needs by setting aside channels for PEG stations. The proposal in this docket would allow operators to deduct from franchise fees paid to PEG stations the value of these channels as well as the value of any in-kind services they provide. The resulting reduction in revenue could threaten the very existence of PEG stations like ours and force local governments to choose between funding the stations or other vital services and institutions. Such an outcome is unacceptable.

**As the Commission deliberates in this docket, we urge you to take no action that threatens the viability and sustainability of PEG stations our citizens depend on throughout our nation.**

Thank you for your attention and consideration to this issue.

Sincerely,

Friends of MCTV

Midland, Michigan