



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,

December 14, 2018

We write to support the Comments of the Cable Act Preservation Alliance ("CAPA," File ID 1114050901562) 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.

We are proud to be one of the 10,400 Community Health Centers across America serving as the primary medical home to more than 27 million of our Nation's people. As the only federally qualified health center in Bennington County and one of 12 in the State of Vermont, we understand what it means to provide services to people who live in rural areas. Many of our patients are homebound, especially in the winter months when transportation is made even more difficult by inclement weather. For these rural residents and more, PEG Access Television and Community Media is integral to reaching them with important messages about local government, schools, and organizations. Our local public access television (GNAT-TV) team attends local meetings, reports on happenings, and shares pertinent news information that is updated regularly. We have partnered with GNAT-TV to promote health and wellness, sharing education using GNAT-TV as the vehicle to reach our community.

This local presence enables the residents of Arlington, Vermont 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 Access in our community and others by choosing not to adopt many of the proposals in the Further Notice.

Sincerely,

Kayla Davis, Co-Executive Director
Battenkill Valley Health Center