East Dorset, VT 05253

December 14, 2018

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,” 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.

Our local community, Greater Northshire Access TV studio has grown to become an invaluable resource for our area – from weather hosted by Middle School students, sports knowledgably discussed by High School students, cooking/craft/creative programs hosted by experts in their fields, Adult Education, broadcasts of sporting, social, political, government meetings, bulletin boards, daily local news, video training and camps for all ages… on and on. GNAT provides jobs, education, programing, music and entertainment for 100s in its listening area.

This local presence enables the residents of our southern Vermont, Bennington County communities 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,

Ruth Stewart