

December 14, 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

RE: MB Docket No 05-311 In the Matter of 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

I am writing in support of the Comments of the Cable Act Preservation Alliance ("CAPA") in the Second Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making. I oppose the tentative conclusions the FCC reaches in the proceeding because of their impacts on my community.

I have been involved with community media for over 20 years, currently working as a staff member for more than 8 years at Peabody Access Telecommunications and a member of the Alliance for Community Media's Northeast Region Board of Directors. The relevancy of community media and associated PEG access channels today cannot be understated. It allows family, friends, and neighbors the opportunity to remain both connected and up to date within the community. Through extensive and diverse coverage of local events, government meetings, it remains a highly dependable source of hyper-local information for residents of Peabody not accessible by any other means. Even during times of emergencies and natural disasters, the channels can become an invaluable resource to the emergency management and public safety communities allowing for up to the minute information to be communicated to residents directly from the city's Emergency Operations Center.

I have also had the opportunity to see first-hand numerous students utilize our facility and gain valuable workforce training and job skills as an extension of their education. Many of those students have gone on to college and begin their career in media. In fact, this is the same path I took through high school and college meaning my current career would not be possible without involvement in my community's media center.

These benefits for community engagement was what was intended when Congress set up the Cable Act. PEG Access does not solely benefit a local government or franchising authority: It benefits and strengthens the community as a whole.

By allowing cable operators to reduce franchise fee support for local communities if they opt for local channels, the FNPRM diminishes the ability of PEG channels to serve communities such as mine. I ask that it not be adopted.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Jim Palmer
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