

Middleton Local Cable Access  
Middleton, Massachusetts

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch

Secretary

Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW

Washington, DC 20554

Re: Promoting Innovation and Competition in the Provision of Multichannel Video Programming Distribution Services (DN 14-261)

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I am writing on behalf of Middleton Local Cable Access. We are a small town local cable access department and many people depend on us for their local information. We have many local committee meetings and town meetings that many people are unable to attend and their only way to obtain information is through our local access channel. We also utilize our local channels to publicize the happenings at our local library.

We are concerned about the impact the proposed rulemaking (DN 14-261) will have on our organization and our ability to provide Public, Educational and Government (PEG) Access services to our community. We strongly support the comments and reply comments of the City of San Antonio and of Anne Arundel County et al. in this proceeding.

We are particularly concerned about the rulemaking's proposal to classify over-the-top (OTT) video services provided by cable franchise holders as something other than a "cable service." Such a designation would allow cable franchise holders to undercut their public interest obligations.

If we were to lose funding for our local channels, the public would lose their ability to receive real-time information and announcements regarding local events and meetings. Our local library, police department, fire department and board of health would not be able to inform the public of important issues directly affecting them.

We ask the Commission not to diminish these vital PEG public interest requirements as it considers this proposed rulemaking.

Respectfully submitted,  
Paul Pellicelli  
Local Cable Access Director  
Town of Middleton

Cc:  
Chairman Tom Wheeler  
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn  
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel  
Commissioner Ajit Pai  
Commissioner Michael O'Rielly