

HCCAM TV

Hingham Community Access and Media

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September 28th, 2015

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 Hingham Community Access & Media. We are a community media center located in the town of Hingham Massachusetts, who provide an invaluable service to the citizens of Hingham through the availability of a equipment, facilities, and a venue for public generated content, the provision of educational opportunities and media/production training and programming, and the facilitation of transparency and involvement in the local government. This is all accomplished by our efforts in managing public, educational, and government television channels that are available over our local cable system.

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.

The impact of losing PEG funding or channel capacity would be tremendous. Not only affecting our ability to empower, educate, and inform our local citizenry, but also the ability for so many individuals and organizations in our community to utilize our services and opportunities in order to connect with their community. Examples of the organizations we serve include; The Hingham Business Council, The Hingham Cultural Council, The Hingham Historical Society, the League of Women Voters, The South Shore Habitat for Humanity, several boy & girl scout organizations, and so many more individuals and other organizations.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Dresser
Executive Director,
Hingham Community Access & Media

Cc:

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