



93-25

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

November 17, 1998

Commissioner Susan Ness
FCC
1919 M St. NW, Rm. 832
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED

NOV 17 1998

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

Dear Commissioner Ness:

I have recently learned that the FCC is deciding whether or not to give Direct Broadcast Satellite providers the ability to pick their own programmers in fulfillment of their public interest obligations. I hope that you will consider that some kind of compromise is in order. The DBS providers may very well choose to provide worthwhile educational programming, but they most assuredly will not choose to offer programming produced on a local basis by individuals or organizations rooted in a particular community.

No doubt from their point of view, such programming does not constitute a sufficiently remunerative option, but the Cable Act of 1992 should point the way in such cases. With media consistently under-representing non-commercial and minority points of view, we have the opportunity to hold broadcasters to a real standard of public interest. The model of free and open forums for ideas provided by Public Access television and the few remaining community radio stations should serve as a model in this instance.

I urge you to mandate that locally-produced programming be given a share of the 100 or so channels to be offered through DBS.

Yours,

Stephen Provizer
23 Winslow Rd.
Brookline, MA 02146
617-232-3174
<radfrall@gis.net>

No. of Copies rec'd 0 + 1
LIST ABCDE