

I am a DirectTV subscriber and a voluntary subscriber to PrimeTime 24, a provider of network programming by ABC, NBC, CBS, PBS and Fox.

My PrimeTime 24 service may be terminated in February, 1999, due to a court injunction out of Florida. I was under the impression that advances made within the telecommunications industry were to offer the American public the right of choice. These advances would create competition and force broadcasters into providing better programming, broadcast quality and service.

The injunction will cause these efforts to take a giant step backwards. Not only will it hinder the public's ability to choose for themselves what they watch, but may be considered by some as censorship. In the very least, it will dramatically limit the "Public's Right to Know", a phrase used repeatedly by the media and broadcasters themselves.

Please make every effort to reinstate and enhance America's freedom of choice within our own homes. After all, the airwaves belong to the American people. Members of the NAB are just lessees. If we allow this to happen, next we will be prevented from reading the Billings Gazette or USAToday because they are not local newspapers.

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