

Reply to comments of Apartment Investment and Management Company (AIMCO):

In their comments, AIMCO follows the national associations' "talking points" in opposing the prohibition of Exclusive Marketing and bulk billing agreements.

AIMCO gives the "pity us routine" if we must bear the cost of wiring or rewiring apartment buildings. I thought the wiring, the plumbing and the heating duct work was just part of the building process. Now I find the wiring is an accepted way to get kickbacks from MVPD providers in exchange for exclusive contracts.

Again AIMCO follows the talking points by stating "the residents consider bulk video service to be a desirable amenity". I lived in rentals many times and did not consider it that inconvenient to call the electric company, the gas company, the telephone company and the cable TV company to turn the services on to the apartment. I also did not consider the one minute per month to pay the cable bill that big of an inconvenience. What was convenient was having the choice to take the cable and at what level of service. Or for some periods, I took no cable at all. I don't consider that you MUST take a service from This provider an amenity.

I find the arguments of AIMCO and many other apartment managing firms that if they must pay for the full cost of wiring they will have to raise rents a bit tiring. They charge rents on what the market will bear. With the advent of wireless technologies, I wonder what their arguments will be?