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March 4, 2009

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: RULING REGARDING PUBLIC,
EDUCATIONAL, AND GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAMMING
CSR-8126, CSR-8127, CSR-8128
MB Docket No. 09-13

Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of Brevard County, I am writing to request that you preserve public, education and government (PEG) channels as they have always been provided.

As a result of Florida's Consumer Choice Act of 2007, cable providers have effectively limited public access to local government. Following this legislation, Brighthouse Networks moved our PEG Channel to a hard-to-find higher-tiered channel, requiring residents to rent a converter box from Brighthouse Networks, subscribe to a more expensive level of service, or purchase a digital television if they want to watch their local government and be informed citizens and voters. This action has frustrated our citizens and elected officials in that our citizens are paying property taxes for the operation of the PEG channel; however, they cannot view this channel without renting this converter box, subscribing to a digital cable package or purchasing a digital TV.

Government-access television provides a way for thousands of citizens to become involved and affect the decisions of their local governments, despite being unable to attend public meetings due to job or family responsibilities, health issues, or other reasons.

As the Space Coast, we depend upon our government-access channel to provide "live" emergency briefings from the county Emergency Operations Center in the event of a Shuttle or rocket mishap, wildfires, and hurricanes. This is an invaluable tool.

At a time when budgets have tightened due to economic conditions, cable providers have placed PEG channels on the lowest digital tier, which eliminates the ability of those citizens with reduced incomes to afford access.

The actions by Brighthouse Networks and other cable providers, which are the subject of Docket No. 09-13, deny citizens the right to be involved in their government via an important media, PEG channels. We urge the Federal Communications Commission to rectify the inequities that these local decisions have created.

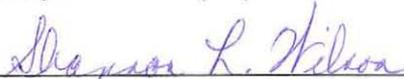
Sincerely,

Chuck Nelson

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing has been provided by U.S. Mail to ACM et al, James N. Horwood, Spiegel & McDiarmid, 1333 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W., Suite 200, Washington D.C. 20036; City of Lansing, Michigan: Teresa S. Decker, Varnum, Bridgewater Place, P.O. Box 352, Grand Rapids, MI 49501-0352; and City of Dearborn, Michigan et al: Joseph Van Eaton, P.L.L.C, 1155 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 1000, Washington, D.C. 20036, on the 6th day of March, 2009.

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