

As a consumer I am getting tired of all the corporate greed by programmers. Every year pay TV providers feud with programmers who come time to renew contracts to carry channels demand rate hikes from the pay TV providers that providers like Time Warner Cable, Cablevision, Cox Communications, DirecTV & Dish Network have to pass on those costs to their own customers – the consumer. Unfortunately, the service providers after making a big deal about it and telling consumers to complain to the programmer ultimately cave and accept higher rates. The latest spat is between Time Warner Cable and CBS and it could affect consumers in Los Angeles California, New York City and Dallas Texas. CBS is telling TWC customers they should switch providers to avoid losing CBS channels and complain to TWC while TWC tells customers they can watch their TV from CBS online. A few years ago though when TWC tried suggesting this for Fox the company put its online TV behind a pay-wall. The one thing CBS could tell its viewers but doesn't want to is we **can access the channels for free over the air** with a **digital antenna** – as **broadcast channels** have to **be offered free via antennas** and CBS **can make money thru ads**. Yet CBS wants to be greedy and force rate hikes. Congress agrees retransmission consent needs to be fixed but the FCC won't act.

In this feud CBS is saying Time Warner Cable may drop its channels and is urging consumers to complain to TWC and TWC is telling its customers to complain to CBS to not raise rates. Frankly, I think Time Warner Cable is doing a good thing standing up for its customers by refusing any rate hike – I know they'll eventually reach a compromise that still results in a rate hike but perhaps a smaller hike than CBS demands. CBS is telling TWC customers to switch to another pay TV provider but fail to mention that we can get CBS channels for free over the air due to government mandates (that public airwaves be non-commercially available and be used in public interest) yet they threaten over Aereo's Internet based service to pipe broadcast TV over the Internet being found legal to shut down their channels. I am tired of these corporate dinosaurs fighting to protect outdated business models rather than adopting new technology.