



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

October 26, 2016

The Honorable Charles B. Rangel  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2354 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Rangel:

Thank you for your letter supporting the Commission's recent actions to foster consumer choice and access to diverse programming on television, including independent, minority, and women-owned programming.

As you know, on September 29, 2016, the Commission adopted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) as a result of the public input received in response to the Notice of Inquiry adopted earlier this year on the state of diversity in the video programming market. The NPRM proposes rules that would prohibit the use of certain clauses in pay-TV programming distribution contracts that impede carriage of independent and diverse programming. The proposed rules would help remove these barriers to competition, diversity, and innovation in the video marketplace, giving independent and niche programmers greater ability to reach their intended audiences. The proposed rules potentially could provide consumers with more choice in the sources and variety of their video programming, greater flexibility in how they access program content, and lower prices for their video programming services. Once the comment period has ended, Commission staff will review the full record and make recommendations on the next steps in this proceeding.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Your views are very important and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tom Wheeler", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

October 26, 2016

The Honorable Ted Lieu  
U.S. House of Representatives  
415 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Lieu:

Thank you for your letter supporting the Commission's recent actions to foster consumer choice and access to diverse programming on television, including independent, minority, and women-owned programming.

As you know, on September 29, 2016, the Commission adopted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) as a result of the public input received in response to the Notice of Inquiry adopted earlier this year on the state of diversity in the video programming market. The NPRM proposes rules that would prohibit the use of certain clauses in pay-TV programming distribution contracts that impede carriage of independent and diverse programming. The proposed rules would help remove these barriers to competition, diversity, and innovation in the video marketplace, giving independent and niche programmers greater ability to reach their intended audiences. The proposed rules potentially could provide consumers with more choice in the sources and variety of their video programming, greater flexibility in how they access program content, and lower prices for their video programming services. Once the comment period has ended, Commission staff will review the full record and make recommendations on the next steps in this proceeding.

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Tom Wheeler



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OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

October 26, 2016

The Honorable Barbara Lee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2267 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Lee:

Thank you for your letter supporting the Commission's recent actions to foster consumer choice and access to diverse programming on television, including independent, minority, and women-owned programming.

As you know, on September 29, 2016, the Commission adopted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) as a result of the public input received in response to the Notice of Inquiry adopted earlier this year on the state of diversity in the video programming market. The NPRM proposes rules that would prohibit the use of certain clauses in pay-TV programming distribution contracts that impede carriage of independent and diverse programming. The proposed rules would help remove these barriers to competition, diversity, and innovation in the video marketplace, giving independent and niche programmers greater ability to reach their intended audiences. The proposed rules potentially could provide consumers with more choice in the sources and variety of their video programming, greater flexibility in how they access program content, and lower prices for their video programming services. Once the comment period has ended, Commission staff will review the full record and make recommendations on the next steps in this proceeding.

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October 26, 2016

The Honorable Ted Deutch  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2447 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Deutch:

Thank you for your letter supporting the Commission's recent actions to foster consumer choice and access to diverse programming on television, including independent, minority, and women-owned programming.

As you know, on September 29, 2016, the Commission adopted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) as a result of the public input received in response to the Notice of Inquiry adopted earlier this year on the state of diversity in the video programming market. The NPRM proposes rules that would prohibit the use of certain clauses in pay-TV programming distribution contracts that impede carriage of independent and diverse programming. The proposed rules would help remove these barriers to competition, diversity, and innovation in the video marketplace, giving independent and niche programmers greater ability to reach their intended audiences. The proposed rules potentially could provide consumers with more choice in the sources and variety of their video programming, greater flexibility in how they access program content, and lower prices for their video programming services. Once the comment period has ended, Commission staff will review the full record and make recommendations on the next steps in this proceeding.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

October 26, 2016

The Honorable Joseph Crowley  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1436 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Crowley:

Thank you for your letter supporting the Commission's recent actions to foster consumer choice and access to diverse programming on television, including independent, minority, and women-owned programming.

As you know, on September 29, 2016, the Commission adopted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) as a result of the public input received in response to the Notice of Inquiry adopted earlier this year on the state of diversity in the video programming market. The NPRM proposes rules that would prohibit the use of certain clauses in pay-TV programming distribution contracts that impede carriage of independent and diverse programming. The proposed rules would help remove these barriers to competition, diversity, and innovation in the video marketplace, giving independent and niche programmers greater ability to reach their intended audiences. The proposed rules potentially could provide consumers with more choice in the sources and variety of their video programming, greater flexibility in how they access program content, and lower prices for their video programming services. Once the comment period has ended, Commission staff will review the full record and make recommendations on the next steps in this proceeding.

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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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OFFICE OF  
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October 26, 2016

The Honorable Karen Bass  
U.S. House of Representatives  
408 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Bass:

Thank you for your letter supporting the Commission's recent actions to foster consumer choice and access to diverse programming on television, including independent, minority, and women-owned programming.

As you know, on September 29, 2016, the Commission adopted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) as a result of the public input received in response to the Notice of Inquiry adopted earlier this year on the state of diversity in the video programming market. The NPRM proposes rules that would prohibit the use of certain clauses in pay-TV programming distribution contracts that impede carriage of independent and diverse programming. The proposed rules would help remove these barriers to competition, diversity, and innovation in the video marketplace, giving independent and niche programmers greater ability to reach their intended audiences. The proposed rules potentially could provide consumers with more choice in the sources and variety of their video programming, greater flexibility in how they access program content, and lower prices for their video programming services. Once the comment period has ended, Commission staff will review the full record and make recommendations on the next steps in this proceeding.

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OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

October 26, 2016

The Honorable Adam B. Schiff  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2411 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Schiff:

Thank you for your letter supporting the Commission's recent actions to foster consumer choice and access to diverse programming on television, including independent, minority, and women-owned programming.

As you know, on September 29, 2016, the Commission adopted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) as a result of the public input received in response to the Notice of Inquiry adopted earlier this year on the state of diversity in the video programming market. The NPRM proposes rules that would prohibit the use of certain clauses in pay-TV programming distribution contracts that impede carriage of independent and diverse programming. The proposed rules would help remove these barriers to competition, diversity, and innovation in the video marketplace, giving independent and niche programmers greater ability to reach their intended audiences. The proposed rules potentially could provide consumers with more choice in the sources and variety of their video programming, greater flexibility in how they access program content, and lower prices for their video programming services. Once the comment period has ended, Commission staff will review the full record and make recommendations on the next steps in this proceeding.

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Tom Wheeler