

DEBBIE DINGELL
12TH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

118 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4071

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE
SUBCOMMITTEES ON
HEALTH
ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE
COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY
CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE

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NATURAL RESOURCES
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NATIONAL PARKS, FORESTS AND PUBLIC LANDS
OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

DISTRICT OFFICES:
18855 WEST OUTER DRIVE
SUITE 103-E
DEARBORN, MI 48124
(313) 278-2936

301 WEST MICHIGAN AVENUE
SUITE 400
YPSILANTI, MI 48197
(734) 481-1100

WEBSITE: DEBBIEDINGELL.HOUSE.GOV

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July 25, 2019

The Honorable Ajit V. Pai
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
455 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20544

Dear Chairman Pai,

I write regarding the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) docket titled "*Implementation of Section 621(a)(1) of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 as Amended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection Act of 1992.*" Community leaders in Washtenaw County and other neighboring communities have contacted my office concerned that your proposal will jeopardize public, education and government (PEG) programming offered in my district. My constituents rely on these programs as a vital resource to stay current with events, activities, and for public accountability of local governments.

Under the Cable Communications Act of 1984, towns and cities can require cable operators to pay franchise fees and provide other community support as part of franchise agreements to use public rights-of-way. Our local governments often rely on franchise agreement financial support to fund PEG stations and other local services. The FCC's current proposal would significantly reduce this support by allowing cable operators to assign a value to PEG stations and deduct that amount from their financial obligation. I have concerns that this proposal could potentially create an unlevel playing field for local governments and put funding for PEG stations and other services in jeopardy.

As the FCC continues to deliberate, I strongly urge you to be mindful of the risks your proposal poses to PEG stations in my district and across the country, and the communities they serve.

Sincerely,



Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress