

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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July 31, 2019

The Honorable Ajit V. Pai  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
455 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, D.C. 20544

Dear Chairman Pai,

We write regarding the FCC's proposed draft order in MB Docket No. 05-311 and its potential impact on public, educational, or governmental (PEG) stations.

As you know, the current rules allow local governments to negotiate in-kind contributions that benefit schools, public safety buildings and PEG stations. The proposed draft order would alter the use of franchise fees. In Michigan, PEG channels provide residents access to critical information and content. PEG channels promote transparency by broadcasting the activities of local government including city commission meetings, school board meetings, and public meetings. This service ensures that residents are still connected to their local communities even if they cannot attend meetings. PEG access channels also provide diverse local programming targeted at youth, seniors, and working adults.

We have heard from leaders in several communities in Michigan who are concerned that this order on cable franchise agreements will have a negative impact on PEG stations and ultimately reduce access to PEG channel content.

We strongly urge the Commission to consider the views of Michigan residents and impact on Michigan communities before moving forward with your order on cable franchise agreements.

Sincerely,



Debbie Stabenow  
United States Senator



Gary C. Peters  
United States Senator