

JIM COSTA

16TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA
WEB PAGE: www.costa.house.gov

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
CHAIR - SUBCOMMITTEE ON
LIVESTOCK AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURE

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
WATER, OCEANS, AND WILDLIFE



CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
EUROPE, EURASIA, ENERGY, AND THE ENVIRONMENT

TRANSATLANTIC LEGISLATORS' DIALOGUE
CHAIR

NATO PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
MEMBER

July 2, 2019

415

The Honorable Ajit V. Pai
Chairman
455 12th Street, Southwest
Washington, DC, 20544

Re: MB Docket No. 05-311

Dear Chairman Pai:

I write regarding the FCC's September 25th Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in *Implementation of Section 621(a)(1) of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 as Amended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992*, MB Docket 05-311.

PEG channels play a critical role in local communities in my district, California's 16th District, and throughout the San Joaquin Valley. For example, since 2012 these channels have helped enhanced public engagement in the Cities of Fresno and Clovis, California by contributing over 2,500 hours of skill development and over 5,200 hours of hyper-local programming to residents. PEG programs are an essential local service, providing more than platforms to enhance publicity for community events or avenues for local organizations to communicate to the communities they serve.

The intent of the PEG provisions in the 1984 Cable Act was to enhance learning opportunities for our local communities. Therefore, it is essential to consider the impact of potential changes on PEG stations' financial viability, and ultimately, the resources available to rural communities such as those within my district and the San Joaquin Valley. As the Commission continues to consider this docket, I strongly encourage to consider the critical role PEG stations play for the next generation.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

JIM COSTA
Member of Congress

Cc: The Honorable Michael O'Rielly, Commissioner
The Honorable Brendan Carr, Commissioner
The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner
The Honorable Geoffrey Starks, Commissioner

FRESNO OFFICE:
855 M STREET, SUITE 940
FRESNO, CA 93721
PHONE: (559) 495-1620
FAX: (559) 495-1027

MERCED OFFICE:
2222 M STREET, SUITE 305
MERCED, CA 95340
PHONE: (209) 384-1620
FAX: (209) 384-1629

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2081 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
PHONE: (202) 225-3341
FAX: (202) 225-9308