Mignon L. Clyburn
Acting Chairwoman

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

September 20, 2013

The Honorable Paul Tonko
U.S. House of Representatives
2463 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Tonko:

Thank you for your letter regarding the recent retransmission consent dispute between Time Warner Cable and CBS Corporation. I share your concerns with regard to the impact such disputes have on consumers.

Commission staff and I closely monitored the situation. I also engaged the parties at the highest levels to urge resolution of the dispute. I am pleased that the companies were finally able to reach agreement and restore the CBS programming to Time Warner Cable systems in early September, though the length of time stalemate was quite troubling. I hope that, in the future, media companies will put consumers' interests first and avoid such programming disruptions.

As you know, retransmission consent disputes involve private contracts where the Commission has limited statutory authority. However, should Congress decide to revisit this issue, Commission staff would be available as a resource for technical assistance.

If you have any additional questions or need any further assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Mignon L. Clyburn

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