

Received & Inspected

APR 26 2016

FCC Mail Room

April 22, 2016

The Honorable Thomas E. Wheeler
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

Thank you for your leadership in making new technologies available to all Americans and fostering innovation in the field. Over the last two decades, we have witnessed remarkable changes in the competitive landscape that have rapidly expanded who provides video programming and how consumers enjoy it. If implemented, your recent Notice of Proposed Rulemaking concerning Navigation Devices will redesign the current video programming marketplace. The scope of the potential changes has left some parties concerned that the potential consequences have not been adequately studied.

In order to properly evaluate these issues, we believe it is essential for peer-reviewed studies to be conducted assessing the potential costs and benefits of the proposed rules as well as potential market-based solutions. These should include research on the impact of the proposed rules on diversity of programming, independent and minority television programming, content protection and consumer privacy. The studies should also analyze the potential impact of the proposed rule on the video programming marketplace, content diversity, intellectual property, content licensing, and consumer privacy.

We respectfully urge the Commission to work with independent parties and study these issues in greater detail while the process moves forward.

Sincerely,



JUAN VARGAS
Member of Congress



JOHN DELANEY
Member of Congress