

Dear West Virginia Congressperson

I am a farm owner in WV and as such pay taxes to my home state where I lived for the first 30 years of my life

Please support the merger of Direct tv and Dish network satellite DBS service.

It would be so nice to receive all WV tv stations with one small 18 inch dish I could watch Channel 8 from the state capitol, or PBS from Morgantown or local tv from Clarksburg or Weston. Cable will never blanket WV due to the cost of running lines but right this moment tv from Russia or India is available to any WV subscriber to Dish Network. Cable needs competition but so does the real culprit which is the content providers. The content providers need to compete directly and head on. Here are some ideas and letters I sent the FCC and to other congressmen and Dish Network

-----Original Message----- Name: Dave

Account Number:

Website Section: Charlie Chat

Subject: Programming Message:

Hi Charlie:

Several comments for you to respond to.

1. I have been a customer for a long time. My customer number is in the first 60000 customers that you signed up. I have never had any of the problems that were described in a letter from Ohio, to the editor of USA today last week. You have great service.

2. Billing statement details.

Electric companies and gas companies break down billing so that the cost of sending the product to my home is separate from the cost of the product. This allows me to select my product supplier from a list based on price.

Cable companies and DBS companies are the delivery systems and programming is the product that is delivered to my home.

I want to see my billing statement (on line) breaking down my costs for delivery from my costs for EACH program.

This would make each supplier of programming compete for customers on price and content.

3. Many of the channels that you deliver to my home must pay Dish Network to be carried. The shopping channels as an example.

4. Then based on price per channel and content that I want, I could compare Cable to DBS and choose my carrier and my programming based on what my wallet and my interests dictate not what package Cable or DBS wants me to buy.

5. Free market choice of broadcasting.'

Remember Charlie, when we only had radio? I could install an outside antenna wire and receive distant radio station across the country and on shortwave around the world. No one worried about coverage area. You listened to the programming most compelling to you and no one limited your choice of which distant programming that you could listen to.

Now fast forward to 1955 and first cable system in Coalwood WV. In order to get TV an antenna system had to be raised on a hill top to get a distant signal from Charleston or Oak Hill or Huntington or Bluefield. No one said that that was wrong to view distant TV signals. The customer was wanting a product so badly that they were willing to pay for an antenna system high on a hill and cables to their home to get TV.

6. Now fast forward to today. Just like listening to radio from a distance or TV, if I install an antenna (dish) I can pick up a distant signal from a very high (22,400mi) transmitter. On that distant antenna and transmitter (satellite) is all kinds of TV stations from all over the US and the world.

Now if free market and customer choice were like it was with radio

and the first cable systems I should be able to find the most compelling programming from any tv station in the U.S. or around the world. If a station in California has programming that I am willing to pay for I should be able to select that station and pay for its delivery to me with out any restrictions of what DMA that I live in.

LET FREE MARKET AND FREE CHOICE PREVAIL AND PROGRAMMING WILL IMPROVE
AND CABLE WILL HAVE TO IMPROVE THEIR DELIVERY AND CUSTOMER SUPPORT SYSTEM TO
COMPETE WITH DBS DELIVERY AND SUPPORT. IF IT DOES NOT THE CUSTOMER WILL
WALK AWAY FROM BAD PROGR