

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

May 5, 2016

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

Dear Chairman Wheeler,

The Federal Communications Commission's recently proposed rules on the Competitive Availability of Navigation Devices, if adopted, will jeopardize the incredible evolution of video distribution services enabled by generally reasonable regulation. Imposing new, onerous regulations on pay-TV providers would produce very few benefits for consumers, while potentially harming the viability of these providers. The particular obligations being considered by the FCC are all the more troubling because they would mandate compliance with technical standards that do not yet exist, injecting even greater uncertainty into the marketplace. In particular, we are concerned the proposal threatens the economic welfare of small pay-TV companies providing both vital communications services to rural areas and competitive alternatives to consumers in urban markets. These providers are often at the forefront of innovation, allowing consumers to access programming through an array of devices. The FCC must take care to ensure their proposal, which is intended to lower costs for consumers and provide more competitive choices, does not inadvertently lead to higher prices and less consumer choice, as government mandates often do.

Consumers today enjoy unprecedented access to some of the highest-quality television programming ever produced, which they can watch anytime, anywhere, on a wide variety of devices. Given this proliferation of consumer choice, it is concerning the Commission continues to consider a proposal that will place significant technical and competitive burdens on pay-TV providers operating in an increasingly competitive environment, particularly small providers who serve as the communications backbone of their communities. Small pay-TV providers face enormous market pressures and regulatory burdens which threaten their ability to offer video services. While we appreciate the FCC's willingness to take small video providers into account during ongoing negotiations, it is unclear what purpose the new rules would serve in this era of unprecedented consumer choice. Further, the broad ranging disruption that adoption of this proposal would create throughout the video marketplace would result in direct harm to smaller providers, even if they are granted a permanent exemption from the rules.

We acknowledge your efforts to support a competitive environment for video competition, but see few if any benefits to the public at large. This proceeding has great potential to disrupt the vibrant and ever-evolving market for video distribution services, and in particular to harm small pay-TV providers and their customers. We strongly urge you to press pause on the set-top box proceeding and reconsider the proposed rules, including the impacts they would have on small businesses and consumers alike.

Sincerely,



Kevin Cramer  
Member of Congress



Kurt Schrader  
Member of Congress



Bob Latta  
Member of Congress



Collin Peterson  
Member of Congress



Brad Ashford  
Member of Congress



Gus M. Bilirakis  
Member of Congress



Marsha Blackburn  
Member of Congress




Rod Blum  
Member of Congress



Mike Bost  
Member of Congress



Larry Bucshon  
Member of Congress



Buddy Carter  
Member of Congress



Mike Coffman  
Member of Congress



Tom Cole  
Member of Congress



Chris Collins  
Member of Congress



Jim Costa  
Member of Congress



Steve Stivers  
Member of Congress



Rick Crawford  
Member of Congress



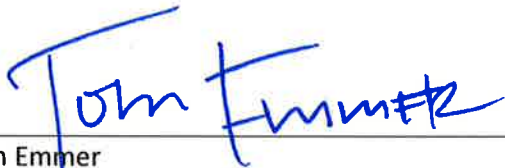
Scott DesJarlais  
Member of Congress



Jeff Duncan  
Member of Congress



Renee Ellmers  
Member of Congress



Tom Emmer  
Member of Congress



Stephen Fincher  
Member of Congress



Bob Gibbs  
Member of Congress



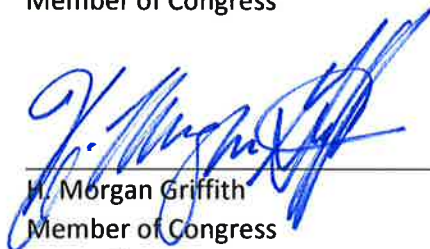
Paul Gosar  
Member of Congress



Scott Tipton  
Member of Congress



Sam Graves  
Member of Congress



H. Morgan Griffith  
Member of Congress



Glenn Grothman  
Member of Congress



Frank C. Guinta  
Member of Congress



Brett Guthrie  
Member of Congress



Richard Hudson  
Member of Congress



Tim Huelskamp  
Member of Congress





Will Hurd  
Member of Congress



Lynn Jenkins  
Member of Congress



Bill Johnson  
Member of Congress



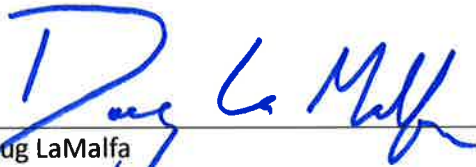
Adam Kinzinger  
Member of Congress



Ann Kirkpatrick  
Member of Congress



John Kline  
Member of Congress



Doug LaMalfa  
Member of Congress



Doug Lamborn  
Member of Congress



Lamar Smith  
Member of Congress



Leonard Lance  
Member of Congress



Billy Long  
Member of Congress



Frank Lucas  
Member of Congress



Kristi Noem  
Member of Congress



Rick Nolan  
Member of Congress



Pete Olson  
Member of Congress



Steve Pearce  
Member of Congress



Mike Pompeo  
Member of Congress



Jim Renacci  
Member of Congress



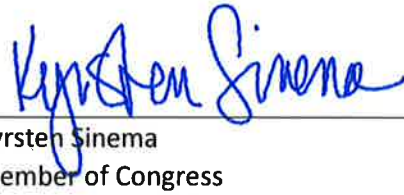
David Rouzer  
Member of Congress



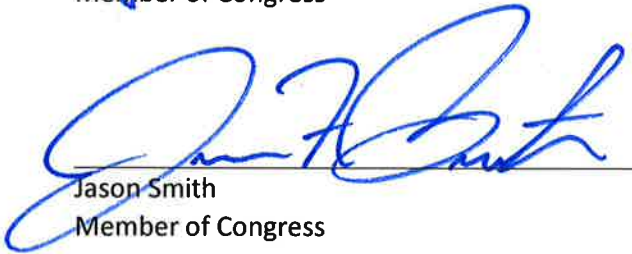
Steve Russell  
Member of Congress



John Shimkus  
Member of Congress



Kyrsten Sinema  
Member of Congress



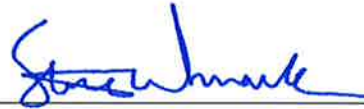
Jason Smith  
Member of Congress



Jackie Walorski  
Member of Congress



Tim Walz  
Member of Congress



Steve Womack  
Member of Congress



David Young  
Member of Congress



Ryan Zinke  
Member of Congress