



HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO
Founded 1795

ADMINISTRATION

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Fire Chief
Robert W. Leininger

Senior/Community
Services Director
Thom Schneider

May 25, 2011

The Honorable Steve Chabot
U. S. House of Representatives
2351 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Chabot:

On May 5, 2011 the Community Access Preservation Act ("CAP Act"), H.R. 1746 was introduced by Congressman LaTourette (R-OH) and Congresswoman Baldwin (D-WI). We are writing today to ask you to become a co-sponsor.

Passage of this Act will allow our local center, Waycross Community Media, to continue providing critical services to the communities of Forest Park, Greenhills, Springfield Township and Colerain Township, including coverage of local events, government meetings, emergencies, and education programming.

Unlike public broadcasting, Waycross receives no federal or state appropriation of funds, but relies on franchise fees, PEG fees, and support from local members and organizations. This bill clarifies the intent of 1996 cable act with respect to Community Media (Public, Government, and Education Access).

The CAP Act responds to immediate threats to funding of public, educational and governmental cable channels around the country. This bill will do the following:

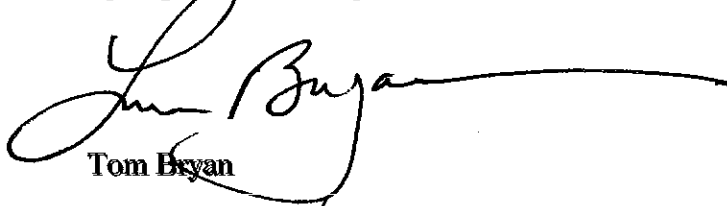
1. Remove the distinction between "capital" and "operating" in PEG support fees.
2. Guarantee that PEG channels are equivalent in quality to all other local commercial stations, network affiliates or PBS.

3. Make sure local governments can secure funding for PEG channels in exchange for cable operators' use of public rights-of-way and makes sure local government can have PEG channels.
4. Make sure that cable operators transmit the PEG channels without charge to the local government.

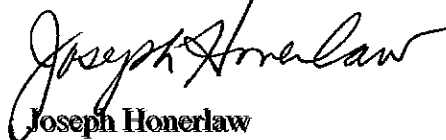
Enclosed you will find a copy of the resolution that the Board of Trustees adopted on May 25, 2011 supporting the immediate Passage of HR-1749 the Community Access Preservation Act.

Sincerely yours,

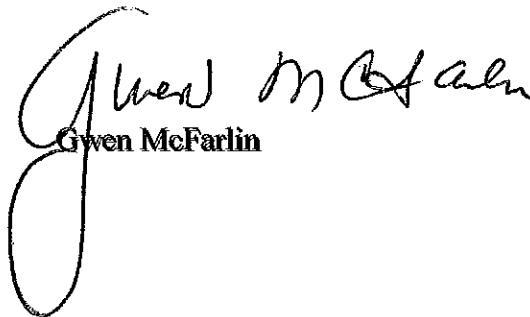
Springfield Township Board of Trustees



Tom Bryan



Joseph Honerlaw



Gwen McFarlin

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP, HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO
RESOLUTION NUMBER 49-2011**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING IMMEDIATE PASSAGE OF HR 1746
THE COMMUNITY ACCESS PRESERVATION ACT**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Springfield Township, Hamilton County, Ohio, met in Special Session on the 25th day of May, 2011 at the Springfield Township Administration Building, 9150 Winton Road with the following members present: Gwen McFarlin Tom Bryan Joseph Honerlaw

Trustee Tom Bryan moved for the adoption of the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, public, educational and government (PEG) access channels are one of the last surviving sources for local television programming across the country, and PEG access channels play a significant role in Forest Park, Greenhills, Springfield Township and Colerain Township (the Waycross Communities); and

WHEREAS, PEG channels are a unique and valuable resource for local information and discourse for the residents of Springfield Township; and

WHEREAS, Waycross Community Media has been producing public service television for Springfield Township since 1982, and televises a wealth of programming focused on our Waycross Communities, which have largely been ignored by Cincinnati broadcasters for decades; and

WHEREAS, Waycross PEG channels televise local government meetings, including city council, trustee, county commissioners, public library board, storm water board, and school board meetings, and are a critical source of information for the residents about the actions taken by local elected officials; and

WHEREAS, the Waycross government access channel contributes to the democratic process by providing opportunities for candidates and others, to discuss local issues during election campaigns, including Election Forums and Candidate Profiles; and

WHEREAS, the Waycross educational access channel, televises hundreds of programs every year from the Finneytown, Northwest, Mt. Healthy and Winton Woods school districts that keep families and the community informed and in touch with the schools, including graduations, academic competitions, sports, talent shows, science fairs, awards ceremonies, school events and information, and other educational programs for all ages; and

WHEREAS, residents and community organizations also use the Waycross studio facilities and the Waycross public access channels to get their message out to the public and to produce their own programming, which provides a window through which viewers can experience the diversity of culture and entertainment, recreational activities, community events, faith based programming and artistic endeavors in their local community... creating television for the people and by the people; and

WHEREAS, Waycross PEG channels reflect the unique identity of our communities; and

WHEREAS, it is important to preserve PEG channels and the much needed funding for PEG facilities and operations, and to ensure that the channels continue to be available to the entire community to serve the residents of Forest Park, Greenhills, Springfield Township and Colerain Township; and

WHEREAS, HR 1746, the Community Access Preservation (CAP) Act, provides important solutions for critical and immediate threats to PEG channels and facilities across the country by removing use restrictions on Public, Educational and Government (PEG) access fees, restoring PEG revenue streams, and ending cable operators' discriminatory treatment of PEG channels.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT,

SECTION 1:

Springfield Township supports the immediate passage of HR 1746.

SECTION 2:

Springfield Township calls on our Congressional delegation to take all possible actions in support of the passage of HR 1746, including but not limited to endorsing, co-sponsoring and voting for HR 1746, and to work for its rapid passage, and directs the clerk to provide a copy of this resolution to our congressional delegation.

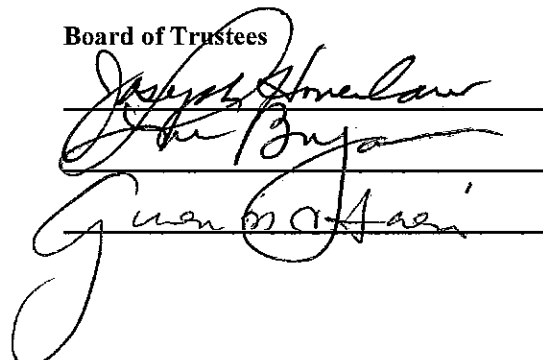
Trustee Joseph Honerlaw seconded the Motion and roll being called upon its adoption the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Bryan, Aye

Mr. Honerlaw, Aye

Ms. McFarlin, Aye


Board of Trustees



CERTIFICATION:

I, John Waksmundski, Township Fiscal Officer, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees of Springfield Township at a Special Session on May 25, 2011.

Signed: 
Township Fiscal Officer

Approved as to Form: 
Law Director