

RESOLUTION PERTAINING TO TELECOMMUNICATIONS LEGISLATION NOW
BEFORE CONGRESS; EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO H.R. 3636 AND
SUPPORT FOR S. 1822.

34

COUNCILLOR DUEHAY

June 27, 1994

WHEREAS, Congress is now seriously considering legislation to allow telephone companies to enter local television markets;

WHEREAS, two bills authorizing video services by telephone companies with significantly differing provisions have been introduced in the House of Representatives (H.R. 3636) and in the Senate (S. 1822);

WHEREAS, the Cambridge City Council strongly agrees with the current national policy of providing as much effective competition in the cable television market as possible, provided the competition is on a level playing field and is fair to all competitors;

WHEREAS, the current provisions of H.R. 3636 would result in an unfair advantage being given to telephone companies over existing cable television providers in that the telephone companies would not be required to obtain a municipal franchise for the use of public rights-of-way;

WHEREAS, the provisions of H.R. 3636 would be detrimental to the development of public access television, a valuable community resource, to the regulation of the orderly use of public rights-of-way, and to the maintenance of existing city revenues derived from present cable communications franchises;

WHEREAS, the provisions of H.R. 3636 may, by tilting the playing field, result in the replacement of a cable television dominated monopoly by a telephone company dominated monopoly, rather than fostering effective competition between the two parties;

WHEREAS, the provisions of S. 1822, as it was originally drafted, provide for municipal franchising of telephone companies providing video services and strikes a proper balance between national and local concerns;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cambridge City Council hereby expresses its strong opposition to the provisions of H.R. 3636 and expresses its support for the provisions of S. 1822;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk send forthwith a certified copy of this resolution to Representative Joseph P. Kennedy, Senator Edward M. Kennedy, and Senator John F. Kerry.

Add KT

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City of Cambridge

34.

IN CITY COUNCIL

June 27, 1994

COUNCILLOR DUEHAY
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

WHEREAS: Congress is now seriously considering legislation to allow telephone companies to enter local television markets; and

WHEREAS: Two bills authorizing video services by telephone companies with significantly differing provisions have been introduced in the House of Representatives (H.R. 3636) and in the Senate (S. 1833); and

WHEREAS: The Cambridge City Council strongly agrees with the current national policy of providing as much effective competition in the cable television market as possible, provided the competition is on a level playing field and is fair to all competitors; and

WHEREAS: The current provisions of H.R. 3636 would result in an unfair advantage being given to telephone companies over existing cable television providers in that the telephone companies would not be required to obtain a municipal franchise for the use of public rights-of-way; and

WHEREAS: The provisions of H.R. 3636 would be detrimental to the development of public access television, a valuable community resource, to the regulation of the orderly use of public rights-of-way, and to the maintenance of existing city revenues derived from the present cable communications franchises; and

WHEREAS: The provisions of H.R. 3636 may, by tilting the playing field, result in the replacement of a cable television dominated monopoly by a telephone company dominated monopoly, rather than fostering effective competition between the two parties; and

WHEREAS: The provisions of S. 1822, as it was originally drafted, provide for municipal franchising of telephone companies providing video services and strikes a proper balance between national and local concerns; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council hereby expresses its strong opposition to the provisions of H.R. 3636 and expresses its support for the provisions of S. 1822; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to Representative Joseph P. Kennedy, Senator Edward M. Kennedy and Senator John F. Kerry.

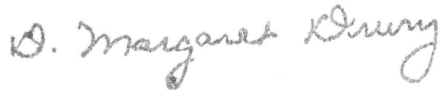
In City Council June 27, 1994.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "D. Margaret Drury".

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

Consent Order #34

R-460

Councillor Duehay re: Two bills authorizing
video service by telephone companies.

In City Council, June 27, 1994

Order adopted.