



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS REGULATION
COMMUNITY ANTENNA TELEVISION COMMISSION
LEVERETT SALTONSTALL BUILDING
100 CAMBRIDGE STREET, BOSTON 02202

ROSALIND A. NILES
Commissioner

(617) 727-6925

RECEIVED
MAR 17 1989
Ans'd.....

MEMORANDUM

TO: Municipal Officials and Cable Television Advisory Committees
FROM: Rosalind A. Niles, Commissioner *RAN*
DATE: March 16, 1989
RE: Update on Legislation Requiring Cable Operators to Disclose Revenue Information

This is to update you on the status of House Bill No. 39, An Act to Provide Local Officials with Cable Operator Revenue Information (copy attached), and to let you know that this is a critical time to support the bill. As explained in my February memorandum, H.39 would require cable operators to provide annual income statements to local officials and would require the disclosure of income statements to the public.

The Committee on Government Regulations heard testimony on the bill on March 8, 1989. Although many municipal officials testified in favor of H.39 and no one opposed the bill, the Committee has not yet decided whether to report the bill favorably to the legislature. I once again urge you to call or write members of the Government Regulations Committee to reiterate your support for H.39. (See attached list). I also encourage you to call your representative and senator and ask them to contact Committee members to support the bill. Since the Committee will likely be voting on the bill within the next few weeks, please contact them as soon as possible.

I appreciate your continued efforts on behalf of H.39. Should you have any further questions or comments about this or any cable matter, please do not hesitate to contact me or members of my legal staff.

Members of the Joint Government Regulations Committee

House

<u>Name</u>	<u>Room Number</u>	<u>Telephone Number</u>
William F. Galvin (D-Brighton), Co-Chairman	472	617-722-2120
Geoffrey C. Beckwith (D-Reading), Vice Chairman	236	617-722-2430
John C. Bartley (D-Watertown)	163	617-722-2225
Athan Catjakis (D-Springfield)	437	617-722-2130
Joseph M. Connolly (D-Natick)	472	617-722-2120
Stephen W. Doran (D-Lexington)	472	617-722-2120
Jacqueline Lewis (R-Bridgewater)	35	617-722-2320
Francis G. Mara (D-Brockton)	254	617-722-2220
Marc Pacheco (D-Taunton)	257	617-722-2670
Richard R. Tisei (R-Wakefield)	472	617-722-2120
Peter G. Trombley (D-Waltham)	427	617-722-2802

Senate

Thomas C. Norton (D-Fall River), Co-Chairman	407	617-722-1114
Edward L. Burke (D-Framingham), Vice Chairman	413C	617-722-1640
Frederick E. Berry (D-Peabody)	413D	617-722-1410
Argeo Paul Cellucci (R-Hudson)	520	617-722-1120
Paul D. Harold (D-Quincy)	507	617-722-1494
Paul J. Sheehy (D-Lowell)	213C	617-722-1630

Mail Address for all legislators and committees:

The Honorable
Room
State House
Boston, MA 02133

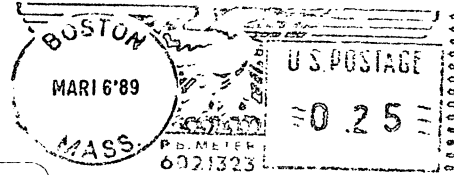
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

MASSACHUSETTS CABLE TELEVISION COMMISSION

100 CAMBRIDGE STREET

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02202

Mayor
City Hall
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139





City of Cambridge

Communication No. 2

IN CITY COUNCIL

March 6, 1989

COUNCILLOR DUEHAY

ORDERED: That this City Council go on record expressing its support for House Bill No. 39 entitled "AN ACT TO PROVIDE LOCAL OFFICIALS WITH CABLE OPERATOR REVENUE INFORMATION".

In City Council March 6, 1989.
Adopted by the affirmative vote of 9 members.
Attest:- Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

HOUSE No. 39

Accompanying the eleventh recommendation of the Executive Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation (House, No. 28). Government Regulations.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Nine.

AN ACT TO PROVIDE LOCAL OFFICIALS WITH CABLE OPERATOR REVENUE INFORMATION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 Section 8 of Chapter 166A of the General Laws, as appearing
- 2 in the 1984 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after
- 3 the words "file annually with the Commission", appearing in line
- 4 5, the words: — "and the issuing authority," and striking out, in
- 5 line 6, the words "for official use only" and inserting in place
- 6 thereof the words: "which shall be available for public inspection."



City of Cambridge

Communication No. 2

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March 6, 1989

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ROSALIND A. NILES
Commissioner

M E M O R A N D U M

RECEIVED
FEB 21 1989

Ans'd.....

(617) 727-6925

TO: Local Officials and Cable Television Advisory Committees

FROM: Rosalind A. Niles, Commissioner *RN*

DATE: February 15, 1989

RE: Legislation Requiring Cable Operators to Disclose Revenue Information

This is to request your support for House Bill No. 39 ("H. 39"), An Act to Provide Local Officials with Cable Operator Revenue Information (copy attached). H. 39 would require cable operators to provide annual income statements to local officials and would require the disclosure of income statements to the public. The bill, which has been assigned to the Committee on Government Regulations, is the Commission's legislative priority this session. Paula W. Gold, Secretary, Executive Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation, filed H. 39 on the Commission's behalf.

Cable operators currently are required to file income statements with the Commission under M.G.L. ch.166A, §8. Though local officials frequently request this information, the legislature in 1979 deleted the requirement that the income statements be available to local officials. H. 39 would restore the right of local officials to have such information.

Disclosure of cable operator income statements will help local officials in several ways. During license renewal negotiations, income statements will enable local officials to better assess the operator's ability to provide new services, facilities or a system rebuild. In initial licensing and license transfer proceedings, local officials will be able to discern the financial strength of an applicant by examining the operator's income statements from other Massachusetts communities. Finally, the disclosure of income statements will allow local officials to verify the basis for operator rate increases. H. 39 will increase the accountability of cable operators to local officials and to the public.

We invite your comments, letters or oral testimony on H. 39. The Government Regulations Committee has scheduled a hearing on H. 39 and other cable bills on March 8, 1989, at 10:30 a.m., in Room 1-F of the State House, Boston. I have enclosed a list of committee members. I urge you to support the bill and to contact your state senator and representative well before the March 8, 1989 hearing and ask them to support this bill.

Should you have any further questions about this or any cable matter, please do not hesitate to contact me or the Commission's legal staff.

HOUSE No. 39

Accompanying the eleventh recommendation of the Executive Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation (House, No. 28).
Government Regulations.

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Boston, MA 02133

2.

S-150

Comm. from Rosalind A. Niles, Commissioner,
Mass. Community Antenna Television Commission
Re: pending legislation requiring cable opera-
tors to disclose revenue information.

In City Council,

March 6, 1989

3-6-89

C. Duehay

See Adopted Order

Copies within of order adopted
supporting this pending legislation
(14-39) and filed as such