



April 4, 2007

Members of the Massachusetts Legislature
Senate
State House
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the more than 8,000 members of FreedomWorks in Massachusetts, I urge you to update Massachusetts' Cable Franchising laws and support the **Massachusetts Cable Choice and Competition Act** introduced by State Senator Steve Panagiotakos and State Representative Jim Vallee.

Under the proposed legislation, the franchise application process would be greatly streamlined by allowing the state to grant franchise licenses for specific areas, rather than having to apply town by town. The Commonwealth would have fifteen days to approve an application, and consumers would win by having a choice in providers.

Telephone and power companies stand ready to infuse billions of dollars into Massachusetts' economy and telecommunications infrastructure. When these companies finally get the opportunity to compete, consumers will eventually benefit through more choices and lower prices. As telephone companies build high-speed optic cables, the people of Massachusetts will have access to new video programming that allows them greater control of what they watch and when they watch it. Cable operators will then face a crucial choice when it comes to customer service: Shape up, or ship out.

The Massachusetts Legislature faces a similar choice with its telecommunication policy. I again urge you to make the right decision and support the Massachusetts Cable Choice and Competition Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dick Arme". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dick Arme
Chairman
FreedomWorks