



October 25, 2016

Tom Wheeler
Chairman

Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner

Michael O'Rielly
Commissioner

Ajit Pai
Commissioner

Jessica Rosenworcel
Commissioner

Re: In the Matter of Expanding Consumers' Video Navigation Choices, MB Docket No. 16-42; Commercial Availability of Navigation Devices, CS Docket No 97-80

Dear Chairman Wheeler and Commissioners:

On behalf of the 22 national and international unions in the Department for Professional Employees, AFL-CIO (DPE), I write to request that the FCC publicly release the text of the revised set-top box order so that all stakeholders can understand its implications and reasonably provide the FCC informed feedback on how the order may affect them and their industry.

DPE was encouraged to see the FCC delay voting on its original proposed rule governing set-top boxes and to lift the sunshine prohibitions, but more must be done to ensure a transparent process that lives up to the ideals of our democratic system of government. Stakeholders can only offer a meaningful assessment of the potential rule's impact if they have access to the full, proposed regulatory text within a sensible period of time ahead of a commission vote.

The potential implications of the FCC's decision in this matter demand a transparent process. The rules governing set-top boxes substantially affect the livelihoods of people working in the entertainment industry. The women and men who contribute both on and off-screen to the success of creative content depend on copyright protections to earn fair wages and benefits. Sacrificing copyright protections in the name of set-top box competition could upend the economic security of middle-class Americans who work in the entertainment industry.

DPE urges the FCC to move forward with consideration of a revised set-top box order in a transparent manner. Consumers gain nothing in a world that lacks the copyright protections and revenue streams needed to sustain the development of the creative content viewers crave.

With thanks for your time and consideration –

Sincerely,

Paul E. Almeida
President