

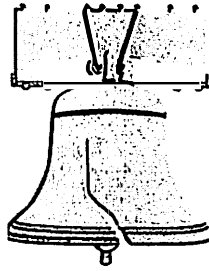
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To: Regulatory Reform Committee Rep. Tyrone Carter, Chair.
C/O Molly Wingrove, Committee Clerk
From: Charter Township of Independence
Re: Opposition to HB4965

This is a letter in opposition to HB4965 which is before the House Regulatory and Reform Committee.

Passing this bill will have a direct impact on local Video Service franchising revenue in The Charter Township of Independence.

Currently The Charter Township of Independence collects Cable Television Franchise Fees in the amount of \$600,000 annually. This revenue is needed for the operation and delivery of services in our community like police, fire, parks, and right of way maintenance.

With the decline, and eventual retirement of traditional Cable Television services, these Constitutionally Mandated franchise fees will go to ZERO. All future paid subscription video services (YouTube TV, HULU, Netflix, AT&T Direct TV, ESPN+ etc.) will still be delivered through our Public Rights of Way at NO COST to these multibillion-dollar companies.

Exempting paid subscription streaming services (YouTube TV, HULU, Netflix, AT&T Direct TV, ESPN+ etc.) from paying Public Right of Way (ROW) franchise fees will have a damaging effect on The Charter Township of Independence bottom line for years to come if HB4965 is enacted. Do not give away these legal and Constitutionally Mandated Right of Way fees to multibillion dollar corporations.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jose Aliaga', is placed below the thank you message.

Jose Aliaga
Township Supervisor
October 9, 2023

CC:
Representative Mike Harris
Senators Jim Runestad & Ruth Johnson
Independence Board of Trustees