

cc 83

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

AUGUST 17, 1983

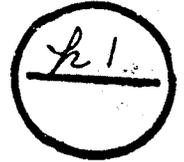
COMMUNICATIONS

CITY CLERK

City Clerk Reimche presented a letter from Len Simon, Assistant Executive Director, United States Conference of Mayors presenting a legislative update with additional information pertaining to S.66.

LEGISLATIVE
UPDATE RECEIVED

Page 7



UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

1620 EYE STREET, NORTHWEST
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
TELEPHONE: (202) 293-7330

August 5, 1983

TO: Cable Cities
FROM: Len Simon 
Assistant Executive Director
SUBJECT: Legislative Update

Congress began a five week recess today. History and experience have proven that Congressional recesses are the best times to make important local concerns known to Congressional representatives. It is virtually certain that your Representative will be spending all or a substantial part of this five week hiatus in the district. It is essential that this valuable time be used to ensure that the Mayor personally makes city views with respect to cable television known to the Representative.

Action on cable legislation is still dormant in the House telecommunications subcommittee, although a draft cable bill is still a good bet for sometime this month. Strong communication from your city can have an important impact during this interim period.

Yesterday, some twenty national consumer organizations and state and local governmental groups held a Conference call to share information and review strategy with respect to potential cable television legislation. It was clear from the call that most organizations share very similar goals. The key result of the call was an agreement to closely coordinate future efforts between governmental and consumer groups in the areas of information, education of House members, and working with the news media. Please get in touch with consumer and education groups in your city and enlist them in this effort.

Attached for your review are letters received from the cities of Apache Junction, Arizona and Muscatine, Iowa from their Congressional representatives expressing some general agreement and understanding about the issues which we have raised. More of these are necessary, particularly from members of Congress who serve on the House Energy and Commerce Committee and its Telecommunications Subcommittee.

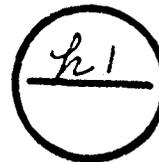
Our publication on this subject (what is cable, why is federal legislation not a good idea, and what's wrong with S.66) is coming soon, and will be mailed to you at the very first opportunity.

Please contact me at 202/293-7330 with any questions or suggestions.

JOHN MCCAIN
FIRST DISTRICT, ARIZONA

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR
AND INSULAR AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY
AND ENVIRONMENT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER
SUBCOMMITTEE ON MINING,
FOREST MANAGEMENT AND
BOONVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION
SELECT COMMITTEE ON AGING
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND
LONG TERM CARE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515



1123 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-2626
1255 WEST BASILINE ROAD
SUITE 101
MESA, ARIZONA 85208
(602) 967-6882
SUITE 201
411 SOUTH WALK AVENUE
TEMPE, ARIZONA 85281
(602) 261-3141

July 12, 1983

The Honorable Wendell J. Clarke
Mayor
City of Apache Junction
1001 North Idaho
Apache Junction, Arizona 85220-0190

Dear Wendell:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding your opposition to Senate Bill 66. I very much appreciate your having taken the time to express your concerns with me.

As you may know, the House Subcommittee on Telecommunications has held two hearings on various options for cable legislation. They have not dealt with the specifics of S.66. From all indications, the Committee does not plan to consider this legislation, however, their own version could be drafted sometime during this Congress.

Wendell, I can certainly understand why this legislation is of utmost importance to you and Apache Junction. I plan to actively express the opposition of not only Apache Junction, but that of other cities within the First Congressional District to my colleagues. If you should have any additional input, please don't hesitate to contact me.

With best regards, I remain

Sincerely,

John McCain
Member of Congress

JM/bb

JIM LEACH
1ST DISTRICT, IOWA



RECEIVED
COMMITTEE ON
FINANCE AND URBAN AFFAIRS
FOREIGN AFFAIRS

1983 AUG -8 AM 8 37

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

ALICE M. REIMCHE
CITY CLERK
CITY OF LODI



June 24, 1983

Mr. Donald R. Platt, Mayor
City of Muscatine
City Hall
Muscatine, Iowa 52761

Dear Donald,

Thank you for your letter expressing the City of Muscatine's opposition to S. 66, the Cable Television bill.

As you know, the bill in compromise form, passed the Senate on an 87 to 9 vote. Currently, the House Subcommittee on Telecommunications, Consumer Protection, and Finance has initiated hearings on this legislation.

The points you raise are well taken. I have some real concerns about the Senate passed version of this bill. As you point out, it does not appear to adequately define the cable television industry or specific related services, appears to limit community access to cable TV while severely restricting the authority of local officials to hold cable systems accountable. As you further know, the bill also provided provisions to supply universal telephone service at reasonable rates that would be subsidized by telecommunications companies. This measure in my estimation, would give cable companies an unfair advantage in selling data services without regulation while local phone companies must operate under the auspices of state regulation. These questions will need to be answered before a true picture of the intent of the cable bill can be assessed.

Although I am not a member of this committee, be assured that I will keep your views in mind as this legislation develops.

Again, thank you for taking the time to contact me with your concerns about this important concern.

Sincerely,


Jim Leach
Member of Congress

JL:at

OFFICES:
1814 LONGWORTH HOB 1 OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20541
(202) 225-6876

308 F AND M BANK BUILDING
THIRD AND JEFFERSON STREETS
EURLINGTON, IOWA 52001
(319) 752-4924

321 WEST THIRD STREET
DAVENPORT, IOWA 52001
(319) 328-1841

Room 204, PARKVIEW PLAZA
107 E. SECOND STREET
OTTUMWA, IOWA 52501
(319) 682-8848

JIM LEACH
1ST DISTRICT, IOWA



RECEIVED
COMMITTEES:
BANKING, FINANCE AND URBAN AFFAIRS
FOREIGN AFFAIRS

1983 AUG -8 AM 8 37

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

ALICE M. REIMCHE
CITY CLERK
CITY OF LODI



June 24, 1983

Mr. Donald R. Platt, Mayor
City of Muscatine
City Hall
Muscatine, Iowa 52761

Dear Donald,

Thank you for your letter expressing the City of Muscatine's opposition to S. 66, the Cable Television bill.

As you know, the bill in compromise form, passed the Senate on an 87 to 9 vote. Currently, the House Subcommittee on Telecommunications, Consumer Protection, and Finance has initiated hearings on this legislation.

The points you raise are well taken. I have some real concerns about the Senate passed version of this bill. As you point out, it does not appear to adequately define the cable television industry or specific related services, appears to limit community access to cable TV while severely restricting the authority of local officials to hold cable systems accountable. As you may further know, the bill also provided provisions to supply universal telephone service at reasonable rates that would be subsidized by telecommunications companies. This measure in my estimation, would give cable companies an unfair advantage in selling data services without regulation while local phone companies must operate under the auspices of state regulation. These questions will need to be answered before a true picture of the intent of the cable bill can be assessed.

Although I am not a member of this committee, be assured that I will keep your views in mind as this legislation develops.

Again, thank you for taking the time to contact me with your concerns about this important concern.

Sincerely,


Jim Leach
Member of Congress

JL:at