

Rochester Hills Master Report

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File Number: 2005-0547

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Regular Meeting

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Meeting

File Name: Opposition to Senate Bill 1504 - the Ensign/McCain Final Action:

Broadband Investment and Consumer Choice Act

Title: Adoption of Resolution of Opposition to Senate Bill 1504 - the Ensign/McCain

Broadband Investment and Consumer Choice Act

Notes:

Code Sections: Agenda Date:

Indexes: Agenda Number:

Sponsors: Enactment Date:

Attachments: Agenda Summary.pdf, SB 1504.pdf, Summary SB Enactment Number:

1504.pdf

History of Legislative File

Ver- Acting Body: Date: Action: Sent To: Due Date: Return Result: sion: Date:

Text of Legislative File 2005-0547

..Title

Adoption of Resolution of Opposition to Senate Bill 1504 - the Ensign/McCain Broadband Investment and Consumer Choice Act

..Body

Whereas, on July 27, 2005, Senator U.S. Senators John Ensign and John McCain introduced Senate Bill 1504 - the Ensign/McCain Broadband Investment and Consumer Choice Act;

Whereas, S.1504 abolishes cable franchising fees which ensure that the services cable companies provide meet local needs, provide needed protections and allows for these provisions to be changed over time as needs change and technology evolves;

Whereas, this Bill could substantially reduce the cable franchise fees providers pay to use public property;

Whereas, S.1504 does not adequately preserve the local ability to manage the streets including the

requirement for providers to relocate lines at their expense when streets are straightened or widened;

Whereas, this Bill does not have meaningful provisions on channels for public, educations or governmental use, and lacks provisions in current law requiring the provider to provide funds to support these channels

Whereas, S.1504 appears to abolish all zoning of cellular towers so towers may be put anywhere in a community without consideration of need or possible effect on property values;

Whereas, this Bill attempts to prevent government from providing the public with communications services;

Whereas, S.1504 abolishes telephone franchises and fees, even though these companies have and should continue to pay "rent" to use the streets, which are publicly owned and maintained;

Whereas, this Bill could cost Michigan communities one million (\$1,000,000) dollars per year in lost revenues from cable and telephone companies;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Rochester Hills City Council opposes Senate Bill 1504, the Ensign/McCain Broadband Investment and Consumer Choice Act because it does not approach comparability in terms of benefits for municipalities or the public compared to the current cable franchises; and it's apparent abolishing of cellular tower zoning, telephone franchises and fees and restrictions on government communications systems which are all harmful with no apparent purpose.

Be It Further Resolved, that the Rochester Hills City Council requests the Cty Clerk to forward a copy of this Resolution to appropriate legislatures.