



Rochester Hills

Master Report

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File Number: 2006-0257

File Number: 2006-0257

File Type: Administration

Status: Consent Agenda

Version: 1

Reference:

Controlling Body: City Council Regular Meeting

Requester:

Cost:

Introduced: 03/28/2006

File Name: Resolution of Opposition - HB 5898 & SB 1157 Franchise Fees

Final Action:

Title: Adoption of a Resolution Expressing Support of Local Control of Cable Franchising and Opposition to Michigan House Bill 5895 and Senate Bill 1157

Notes:

Code Sections:

Indexes: Cable TV

Sponsors:

Attachments: Agenda Summary.pdf, HB-5895.pdf

Agenda Date:

Agenda Number:

Enactment Date:

Enactment Number:

History of Legislative File

Ver- sion:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:
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Text of Legislative File 2006-0257

..Title

Adoption of a Resolution Expressing Support of Local Control of Cable Franchising and Opposition to Michigan House Bill 5895 and Senate Bill 1157

..Body

Whereas, AT&T and Verizon have been actively advocating across the country that local cable franchise agreements be eliminated; and

Whereas, AT&T is blaming Michigan communities as the reason they cannot enter into the cable/video business, while local communities, and local residents, want more cable competition and would quickly allow AT&T into their community, AT&T has refused to negotiate a franchise with any city, village, or township; and

Whereas, legislation introduced in the Michigan Legislature, House Bill 5895 and Senate Bill 1157 would:

- Eliminate local cable franchising and requires the Secretary of State to grant a statewide franchise.

- Allows any cable or video provider to stop serving any area in a city, village, or township based on out-of-state corporate economic decisions. Current law guarantees service to all local residents. Cable and phone companies could turn off service to neighborhoods because they are not profitable, basically "cherry-picking" and "redlining" neighborhoods; and

Whereas, local government participation in the cable franchising process ensures build-out requirements so that all residents irrespective of age, race, education, or income level, receive the same service.

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Rochester Hills City Council opposes House Bill 5895 and Senate Bill 1157 and urges our state legislators to oppose the bills.

Be It Further Resolved that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby affirms its support for the current local cable franchise agreement system and urges federal and state policy makers to only support legislation that:

- 1) Maintains local control of the cable franchise process.
- 2) Ensures build-out requirements so that providers are not able to "cherry-pick" customers.
- 3) Preserves local governments' ability to manage the public rights-of-way.
- 4) Ensures no reduction in direct revenues and that Michigan's Metro Act is preserved.

Be It Finally Resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to our state legislators in Lansing, our Congressional representatives in Washing, DC, Governor Granholm and the Michigan Municipal League.