

**www.CableAdvisoryCouncil.com**

For Charter Communications NW CT Area 19

PO BOX 87, Newtown CT 06470

Email [Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com](mailto:Chairman@CableAdvisoryCouncil.com)

CABLE ADVISORY COUNCIL – PURA District 19

Gregory G. Davis, Chairman

19 February 2015 CT Energy & Technology Committee Public Hearing  
Oral Testimony for PHB-6436, PHB6437, PHB-6438  
An Act Stabilizing the Funding for the CT Institution of Community Access  
Television

Greetings Senator Doyle, Representative Reed, and the Honorable  
members of the Energy & Technology Committee.

I am Gregory Davis, a volunteer on a mission to Save Our  
Community Access Providers. I ask your support for House bills 6436,  
6437, and 6438 – An Act to Stabilize the Funding for the CT Institution of  
Community Access Television.

A loophole has been exposed in the existing law which creates the  
funding source for community access by technology advancements like high  
definition TV and digital video which permit subscribers to “Cut The Cord”  
on their bundled cable TV package. This loophole is now eroding the  
funding source for community access.

I am sure that community access television has touched many of your  
lives along your path to public service here today.

From the hundreds of stories I can offer about the social value of community access, I will offer you one short story about my friend Ken Swain. Ken created a series of TV programs for community access television a few years back. These programs explored the universal question; “What makes people act the way they do?” These half hour TV shows were based upon Kens passionate study of the late 20<sup>th</sup> century American philosopher, Ernest Becker. Ken continues to have his timeless series of shows broadcast on community access TV. Ken works full time at a gas station, and upon my occasional visits, will relate his stories to me about people who come into the mini-mart to pay for gas and buy lottery tickets, who will recognize him, and engage him with “I saw you on TV, and your excellent show really got me thinking”!. Ken is so proud of his accomplishment, and has said to me many times, “producing his community access TV shows has been the most important thing he has done in his life.”

There are thousands of stories like this. Community Access TV is important to our society. Save Our Community Access Providers. Close the loophole in the law which threatens the future for community access.

Support the bills 6436, 6437, 6438.

It has been my honor to offer these words of testimony, straight from my heart.