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RESOLUTION 2006 - 68

A RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO VOTE AGAINST ANY VIDEO FRANCHISING REFORM LEGISLATION THAT EITHER WEAKENS THE COUNTY'S AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO LOCAL FRANCHISE AGREEMENTS WITH CABLE COMPANIES OR TELEPHONE COMPANIES THAT OFFER VIDEO SERVICES OR ALLOWS FOR STATE-WIDE OR NATION-WIDE VIDEO FRANCHISE AGREEMENTS THAT DO NOT PROVIDE ADEQUATE SUPPORT FOR LOCAL PUBLIC, EDUCATIONAL, AND GOVERNMENTAL ACCESS CHANNELS; PROVIDE THE COUNTY WITH SUFFICIENT AUTHORITY TO MAINTAIN PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY; ENFORCE "BUILD-OUT" REQUIREMENTS; AND PREVENT REDLINING OR DISCRIMINATELY OFFERING VIDEO SERVICES; REQUEST THAT ALL MEMBERS OF THE NORTH FLORIDA CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION AND NORTH FLORIDA STATE LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION ACTIVELY OPPOSE SUCH LEGISLATION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, video service franchising includes franchises with cable companies and phone companies offering cable-like services; and

WHEREAS, several Bills involving video service franchising reform have been proposed in Washington, D.C., and Tallahassee, Florida; and

WHEREAS, the County believes that providing a level playing field in the video service market will allow for more competition and better services to citizens of the County; and

WHEREAS, maintaining local franchising authority over cable companies and phone companies offering cable-like video services is the best means for providing support for

adequate local public, educational, and governmental access channels; provide the County with sufficient authority to maintain public rights-of-way; allow the County to enforce "build-out" requirements; and prevent video services providers from redlining or discriminately offering video services; and

WHEREAS, maintaining local franchising authority over video services and providing a level playing field in the video service market are not only compatible, but also the best alternative for providing video services and protecting the citizens of the County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED this 10th day of April, 2006, by the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County, Florida, as follows:

1. The County opposes and urges the United States Congress and the Florida Legislature to vote against any video franchising reform legislation that weakens local governments' authority to enter into local franchise agreements with cable companies or telephone companies that offer video services; and requests that all members of the North Florida Congressional Delegation and the North Florida State Legislative Delegation actively oppose such legislation.


2. The County opposes and urges the United States Congress and the Florida Legislature to vote against any video franchising reform legislation that weakens local governments' authority to (1) ensure adequate support for local public, educational, and governmental access channels; (2) maintain public rights-of-way; (3) enforce "build-out" requirements; and (4) prevent video services providers from redlining or discriminately offering video services; and requests that all members of the North Florida Congressional Delegation and the North Florida State Legislative Delegation actively oppose such legislation.

3. The Clerk is hereby directed to provide a copy of this Resolution to the Honorable Cliff Stearns, member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee; the Honorable Ted Stevens, Chairman of the United States Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation; the Honorable Joe Barton, Chairman of the United States House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Commerce; the Honorable John D. Dingell, Ranking Member of the United States House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Commerce; the North Florida Congressional Delegation; and the North Florida State Legislative Delegation; the

Honorable Tom Lee, Florida Senate President; and the
Honorable Allan G. Bense, the Florida Speaker of the House.

4. This Resolution shall become effective upon the
Chairman's signature.

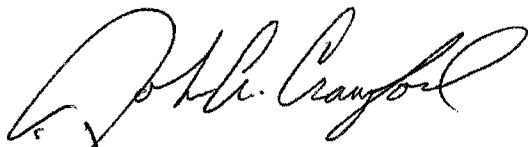
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA



THOMAS D. BRANAN, JR.

Its: Chairman

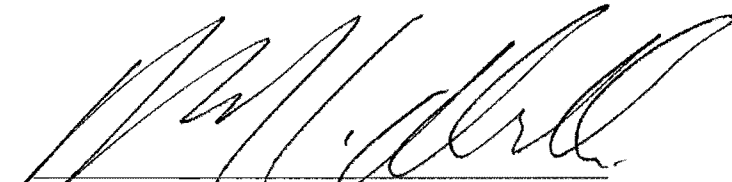
ATTEST:



JOHN A. CRAWFORD

Its: Ex-Officio Clerk

Approved as to form by the
Nassau County Attorney



MICHAEL S. MULLIN

z/amyers/res/cable-tv

List of Legislators to mail proposed resolution:

The Honorable Cliff Stearns
Member, House Energy and Commerce Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
2370 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ted Stevens, Chairman
United States Senate Committee on Commerce
522 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DCA 20515

The Honorable Joe Barton, Chairman
U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John D. Dingell
Ranking Member
U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Commerce
2328 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Lee
Florida Senate President
Room 312
Senate Office Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

The Honorable Allan G. Bense, Speaker
Florida House of Representatives
320 The Capitol
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

The Honorable Senator Stephen R. Wise
Room 413
Senate Office Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

The Honorable Senator James E. "Jim" King, Jr.
Room 416
Senate Office Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

The Honorable Representative Aaron P. Bean
221 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

The Honorable Congressman Ander Crenshaw
127 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Senator Bill Nelson
716 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20515