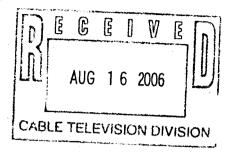


## REPRESENTATIVE LIZ MALIA

11 TH SUFFOLK DISTRICT

ROOM 33, STATE HOUSE TEL. (617) 722-2060 FAX (617) 722-2849 Rep.LizMalia ©hou.state.ma.us

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts House of Representatives State House, Poston 02133-1054



## Committees on:

Mental Health and Substance Abuse Vice Chair

Ways and Means
Public Safety and Homeland Security

August 16, 2005

Ms. Judith F. Judson, Chairman
Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy
Cable Television Division
One South Station
Boston, MA 02110

RE: Docket No. CTV 06-1

Dear Chairwoman Judson:

Please accept this letter as my testimony in opposition of Docket Number CTV 06-1: A Petition by Verizon New England for adoption of competitive license regulation. The proposed 90 day licensing period for competitive initial licensing is inadequate; because it will restrict the ability of local municipalities to properly negotiate community cable television needs.

To serve the public interest, adequate time must be allowed for regular meetings to discuss the complex details of community needs. The proposed 90 day licensing period would put an undue burden on local communities, especially since the existing timetable has allowed communities to voice their community cable television needs effectively.

I do recognize the potential savings to my constituents by increasing competition among service providers, which is why I would support a shorter period of time than the current licensing period. However, I am a strong supporter of community television which provides informative coverage of local issues that does not exist on regional and national cable stations.

I respectfully request that Commission of the Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy oppose this petition. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

State Representative, 11<sup>th</sup> Suffolk District