

**RESOLUTION NO. 44-89**

**CABLE MONOPOLIES LEGISLATION**

**WHEREAS**, the Cable Deregulation Act of 1984 removed rights of states and municipalities to regulate the rates charged by cable companies and the channels carried within a franchised area; and

**WHEREAS**, the service provided by the cable company is a public convenience and necessity like any other public utility; and

**WHEREAS**, since deregulation with the merging of cable companies and the vertical and horizontal integration between cable companies and program suppliers a virtual monopoly has been created whereby competing technologies are rendered incapable of providing effective competition; and

**WHEREAS**, citizens and municipalities have historically held the right to regulate and oversee the rates and services of public utility monopolies;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the County of Mason, in the State of Washington, supports the proposal for the re-regulation of the cable industry and allowing alternative technologies to effectively compete to insure the free flow of information; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, The Board of Mason County Commissioners respectfully requests Congressional enactment of legislation which will enable local municipalities to regulate cable companies and allow alternative technologies to compete effectively;

**AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Board of Mason County Commissioners forward this resolution to the Washington State Association of Counties per Section IX of the Association Bylaws for consideration and adoption by the entire delegation at the 1989 June convention.

**DATED** this 23rd day of May, 1989.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MASON COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

  
Annette S. McGee, Chairperson

  
Michael D. Gibson, Commissioner

  
William O. Hunter, Commissioner

**ATTEST:**

  
Rebecca S. Rogers, Clerk of the Board

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