

March 12, 2014

The Honorable Greg Walden, Chairman  
House Subcommittee on Communications and  
Technology  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515



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Dear Chairman Walden:

On behalf of the League of Rural Voters, a national non-profit organization dedicated to increasing the representation of rural people in the policy making process, I write to urge the committee to adopt the Satellite Television Extension and Localism Act of 2014 with provisions eliminating the FCC's ban on making cable set-top boxes with integrated "descrambling" technology available for rental.

The FCC's integration ban has prevented low- and middle-income rural families from having the option of a low-cost cable box and has imposed a billion dollars in excessive costs to consumers nationwide. The League has consistently called for the elimination of this costly and unnecessary rule, and we support the bill's approach, which achieves this goal while preserving choice in devices for consumers.

The League of Rural Voters appreciates your leadership on this matter and I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Niel Ritchie  
Executive Director

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