

# Modernizing Funding for Community Media

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*In 1984 Congress recognized the vital role that television would have in people's lives... and that diverse, local voices would get lost in programming created by national companies.*

So they mandated that in return for using the public right of way (telephone poles, conduits, & sidewalks), cable companies had to pay a franchise fee to fund local Access Stations.

These days some people still watch traditional cable tv, which continues to fund Access Stations.

**Learn more at**  
**[MassAccess.org](http://MassAccess.org)**

Click on  
"Get Involved," then  
"Active Legislation"



But more and more people have dropped cable and now watch TV from streaming services instead... **which uses the same infrastructure as cable but doesn't help fund Access TV.**



Call your state legislators and ask them to support H.74 and S.34! **newTV**