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CITY COUNCIL PASSES REVISED CABLE COMMUNICATIONS ORDINANCE

Updated Ordinance Streamlines Cable Regulation and Operations to Improve Service Throughout the City

CHICAGO - Today, the City Council passed the revised Cable Communications Ordinance which will ensure more efficient cable regulation and service to Chicago. Technological advances as well as numerous changes on both the business and legal landscape of cable providers made the revisions necessary for cable regulators and providers to function effectively.

For consumers, the ordinance assures equal service from all cable providers, including cable guide generated information. The new ordinance also expands the definition of gross revenues from cable providers, enabling the City to collect on revenue generated from cable premium services. The additional revenue streams fund public, educational and governmental programming on the City's 3 municipal channels as well as CAN-TVs 5 public channels.

The revisions reflect developments in federal and state law, including the Illinois Cable and Video Customer Protection Law of 2007, and eliminates the Cable Commission. The Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (BACP) will function as the sole regulator.

"As a customer service agency and the home of cable regulation, BACP is uniquely equipped to address both the regulatory issues that arise in cable operations as well as the concerns of cable customers", said BACP Commissioner Rosemary Krimbel. "Cable customers will be served and their interests protected by BACP."

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