

# CableLabs®

Cable Television Laboratories, Inc.

December 22, 2009

The Honorable Olympia J. Snowe  
United States Senate  
154 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mark R. Warner  
United States Senate  
459A Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Provision of Greater Technical Resources to FCC Commissioners

Dear Senator Snowe and Senator Warner:

As President and CEO of Cable Television Laboratories, Inc. (CableLabs®), I write to you today to indicate my support for your draft bill that would provide greater technical resources to FCC Commissioners, specifically and at their discretion, retaining their own electrical engineering or computer scientist on staff. Such technical resources would enable Commissioners to better assess technical issues, especially the impact of new and evolving technology on matters of interest to the FCC.

As you may know, CableLabs is the cable television industry's technology research and development laboratory. It has been in existence for more than 20 years. Our membership comprises more than 45 cable companies, including all of the major U.S. cable companies.

My time here at CableLabs is brief, five months or so, but my career has been spent in television and telecommunications with many opportunities to engage in technical discussions with FCC Commissioners and with their staff. Most recently, I was the Chief Technology Officer in North America for Panasonic.

I have consistently found FCC Commissioner's offices to be very interested in the technical aspects of matters and highly motivated to do the right thing. I also have found the FCC's Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) to be very competent, knowledgeable, and professional in its very excellent support of the Commissioners. Addition of technical staff that directly reports to the Commissioners should enhance and augment the work of the OET.

While CableLabs does not actively lobby Commissioners or their staffs – that is the purview of the National Cable & Telecommunications Association – I believe the process of Commissioner deliberations would be well served by having additional technical expertise on each Commissioner's staff.

Sincerely,



Dr. Paul F. Liao  
President and CEO

cc: Chairman John D. Rockefeller IV  
Ranking Member Kay Bailey Hutchison

---

858 Coal Creek Circle  
Louisville, Colorado 80027-9750  
Phone: 303.661.9100  
Fax: 303.661.9199  
<http://www.cablelabs.com>