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For Immediate Release

Churches, Civil Rights Organizations, Demand FCC Recognize Cable Market Power Hurts Diversity, Religious Programming

WASHINGTON -- Media Access Project filed a letter on behalf of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Office of Communication of the United Church of Christ, and the National Hispanic Media Coalition demanding that the FCC recognize that the Congressional "70/70" measurement of cable market power has been met. The excessive power of cable operators over programming has squeezed out independent minority and religious programming. Instead of allowing cable to confuse the issue by pretending this is about a la carte, the FCC must remain focused on recognizing cable market power and creating new opportunities for independent minority and religious programming.

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Media Access Project (MAP) is a non-profit advocacy organization dedicated to promoting the public's First Amendment right to access a diverse marketplace of ideas in the electronic mass media of today and tomorrow. For over 35 years, MAP has promoted the public interest before the FCC and the Courts, advocating for an open and diverse media that protects the free flow of information, promotes universal and equitable access, and encourages vibrant public discourse on critical issues facing our society. For more information please visit our website at www.mediaaccess.org.

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