

# Both parties agree, it's time to reform our video rules.

Members from both sides of the aisle are calling attention to how our broken retransmission consent system harms viewers and are stressing the need for reform.

“While age is an asset for a fine Willamette Valley Pinot Noir, in a technology statute, age can portend irrelevancy. In the on-demand world of the internet and mobility, the statutes that govern the video marketplace are **blissfully ignorant of the changes that have taken place** around them.”

—Rep. Greg Walden (R-OR)

“Some will say that legislating in this area is akin to picking sides, or interferes with the retransmission consent mechanism that’s working just fine. **I don’t think it’s working just fine. I think it’s broken**, myself.”

—Rep. Anna Eshoo (D-CA)

“Innovation isn’t happening as rapidly as we’d like, because we don’t always have a free marketplace, if you will. And all of those areas, that’s because **the video marketplace is saddled with a 20-year-old law, that unfairly treats competing video distributors with different rules.**”

—Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN)

“The rise in the cost of programming and in **the number of retransmission consent disputes and impasses leads me to believe that we do have a problem.**”

—Sen. Cory Gardner (R-CO)

“**I’m very concerned about the blocking of online content in retransmission consent disputes.** This is—this is new ground that’s being broken here... And I hope this doesn’t become the new normal for retransmission disputes.”

—Rep. Mike Doyle (D-PA)

“**...the laws that are on the books had no conceptual ability to foresee what is now happening** in the marketplace.”

—Rep. Joe Barton (R-TX)

“You’re just flipping through the channels. You want to watch a show. You know, **why should one negotiation be ruled by the government in a different way than the other channel**, when to the consumer, it’s a seamless operation?”

—Rep. Steve Scalise (R-LA)

“The video marketplace continues to evolve faster than most consumers, let alone government can keep up with, however, **many of the existing provisions in the Communications Act no longer apply to the existing marketplace or are in need of serious updating.**”

—Rep. Bob Latta (R-OH)

“With this blackout entering its third week, it is obvious that **the current state-of-affairs is unfair to consumers.** It is time we reexamine whether our current laws offer the level of protection they deserve.”

—Rep. Zoe Lofgren (D-CA)



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