

S 2989

Franchise Reform Act of 2006

Congress: 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: May 23, 2006

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (May 23, 2006)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/senate-bill/2989>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Hutchison, Kay Bailey [R-TX]

Party: Republican • **State:** TX • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 23, 2006

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Franchise Reform Act of 2006 - Amends the Communications Act of 1934 to designate the State Commission of each state as the franchising authority for any state-issued franchise for the provision of cable or video service in that state. Outlines application requirements for any entity or person seeking to obtain a state-issued certificate of franchise authority. Exempts existing franchises from such application requirements. Requires the holder of a state-issued certificate to pay each municipality in which the holder provides cable or video service a franchise fee of five percent of the gross revenues of such holder.

Requires certificate holders to: (1) comply with applicable customer service standards until there are two or more providers offering service in a municipality; (2) provide municipalities, upon request, with capacity to allow public, educational, and governmental (PEG) access channels for noncommercial programming (with a required minimum number of such channels); and (3) provide for the interconnection of cable and video systems within a municipality for the purpose of providing PEG programming.

Requires local municipalities to allow certificate holders to install, construct, and maintain necessary communications networks within public rights-of-way.

Prohibits certificate holders from denying access to cable or video service to any group of residential subscribers because of the income of the residents in the local area.

Actions Timeline

- **May 23, 2006:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 23, 2006:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.