PULASKI TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION #334

RESOLUTION OPPOSING STATEWIDE CABLE FRANCHISING LEGISLATION IN PENNSYLVANIA

WHEREAS, The Cable Act of 1984 (the "Act") provides an important role for municipal governments in the process of developing the terms under which cable television service may be provided to its residents, and

WHEREAS, under federal law, cable franchise agreements are non-exclusive meaning that more than one cable provider may seek franchises from and provide cable service to a municipality at the same time, and

WHEREAS, Pulaski Township affirms that the local franchising process has benefited both communities and cable customers and has not been a barrier to entry for new providers, and

WHEREAS, Pulaski Township supports maintaining the current cable franchising process that requires cable providers to obtain a local cable franchise in order to offer cable service in a municipality using the municipality's public rights-of-way – a cable franchise allows for both competition and local input, and

WHEREAS, the local cable franchising process continues to be an effective way for municipalities to work with cable television providers to ensure that each community's local cable-related needs and interests are addressed, and

WHEREAS, the elimination of the local cable franchising process would disable the municipality's legal ability to ensure that competition is offered on equal terms to all residents, and

WHEREAS, each municipality and its residents have a significant and specific interest in the terms and conditions attendant to the award of a cable television franchise to the cable provider(s) that serve their community, and

WHEREAS, municipalities and their residents would suffer either a reduction in services or an increase in property taxes to offset the loss of any portion of the franchise fees on which local budgets depend.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED Pulaski Township urges the Pennsylvania General Assembly, in the strongest possible manner, to oppose any legislation that would provide for state-issued cable video franchises this 13th day of November, 2006.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be certified and forwarded to members of the State Legislative delegation.

ATTEST:	Municipality:	PULASKI TOWNSHIP
	Chairman	
		Mark P. Wagle