

HB-7187  
PUC  
Neither – suggested amendment



**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**  
**Public Utilities Commission**

89 Jefferson Boulevard  
Warwick, Rhode Island 02888  
(401) 941-4500

Chairman Ronald T. Gerwatowski  
Commissioner Abigail Anthony  
Commissioner John C. Revens, Jr.

February 9, 2022

The Honorable Deborah Ruggiero  
Chair, House Innovation, Internet, & Technology Committee  
State House  
Providence, RI 02903

Re: House Bill 7187 – Community Antenna Television Systems

Dear Chair Ruggiero:

I am submitting the following comments on behalf of the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) on House Bill 7187 which would require Internet service providers to follow net neutrality requirements. The bill would give the PUC and Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (Division) a role in implementation and oversight. Executive Order 18-02 which is similar to this bill, gave the Division the authority and responsibility along with other state agencies. Such authority appears to be consistent with the Division's general jurisdiction under this section, particularly R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-19-6, "Jurisdiction of the division." Therefore, it does not appear to be necessary to include the PUC as a jurisdictional agency in this bill. We recommend removing the references to the PUC.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at 401-780-2147 or [cynthia.wilsonfrias@puc.ri.gov](mailto:cynthia.wilsonfrias@puc.ri.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Cynthia G. Wilson-Frias".

Cynthia G. Wilson-Frias  
Chief of Legal Services

cc: Committee Members  
Representative Solomon