

Accompanying the second recommendation of the Executive Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulations (House, No. 44).  
Government Regulations.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Seven.

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AN ACT TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE COMMUNITY ANTENNA TELEVISION COMMISSION AND TO CONFORM THE CABLE TELEVISION STATUTES TO FEDERAL LAW.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 166A of the General Laws is hereby  
2 amended by striking out the caption "COMMUNITY ANTENNA  
3 TELEVISION SYSTEMS" and inserting in place thereof the  
4 following caption: — "CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEMS".

1 SECTION 2. Section 1 (a) of said chapter 166A, as appearing  
2 in the 1984 official edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in  
3 line 1, the words "community antenna" and inserting in place  
4 thereof the word: — "cable".

1 SECTION 3. Section 1 (b) of said chapter 166A, as appearing  
2 in the 1984 official edition, is hereby amended by striking out  
3 clause (b) and inserting in place thereof the following clause: —

4 (b) "Cable system", a facility, consisting of a set of closed  
5 transmission paths and associated signal generation, reception,  
6 and control equipment that is designed to provide cable service  
7 which includes video programming and which is provided to mul-  
8 tiple subscribers within a community, but such term does not  
9 include:

10 (1) a facility that serves only to retransmit the television signals  
11 of 1 or more television broadcast stations;

12 (2) a facility that serves only subscribers in 1 or more multiple  
13 unit dwellings under common ownership, control, or manage-  
14 ment, unless such facility or facilities uses any public right-of-way;

15 (3) a facility of a common carrier which is subject, in whole or in  
16 part, to the provisions of Title 47 of the United States Code,  
17 Sections 201 et seq., except that such facility shall be considered a  
18 cable system (other than for purposes of Title 47 of the United  
19 States Code, Section 541 (c) to the extent such facility is used in the  
20 transmission of video programming directly to subscribers; or

21 (4) any facilities of any electric utility used solely for operating  
22 its electric utility systems.”

1 SECTION 4. Section 1 (c) of said chapter 166A, as appearing  
2 in the 1984 official edition, is hereby amended by striking out  
3 clause (c) and inserting in place thereof the following clause: —

4 “(c) “Cable operator” or “operator”, a person operating a cable  
5 television system.”

1 SECTION 5. Section 1 (e) of said chapter 166A, as appearing  
2 in the 1984 official edition, is hereby amended by striking out  
3 clause (e) and inserting in place thereof the following clause: —

4 “(e) “Licensee,” a person who is issued a license pursuant to  
5 section three, such term excluding only television broadcast sta-  
6 tions prohibited from being cable operators under Title 47 of the  
7 United States Code, Section 533(a), and newspaper media and  
8 their affiliates in their major circulation areas.”

1 SECTION 6. The first paragraph of section 2 of chapter 166A,  
2 as appearing in the 1984 official edition, is hereby amended by  
3 striking out, in line 2, the words “community antenna” and insert-  
4 ing in place thereof the word: “cable”.

1 SECTION 7. Section 3 of said chapter 166A, as appearing in  
2 the 1984 official edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in line  
3 2, the word “CATV” and inserting in place thereof the word:  
4 “cable”.

1 SECTION 8. Section 7 of said chapter 166A, as appearing in  
2 the 1984 official edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in the

3 last sentence, the word "CATV" and inserting in place thereof the  
4 word: "cable".

1 SECTION 9. Section 8 of said chapter 166A, as appearing in  
2 the 1984 official edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in line  
3 1, the word "CATV" and inserting in place thereof the word:  
4 "cable".

1 SECTION 10. Section 9 of said chapter 166A of the General  
2 Laws, as appearing in the 1984 official edition, is hereby amended  
3 by striking out, in line 1, the word "CATV" and inserting in place  
4 thereof the word: "cable".

1 SECTION 11. Section 10 of said chapter 166A, as appearing in  
2 the 1984 official edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in line  
3 1, the word "CATV" and inserting in place thereof the word:  
4 "cable".

1 SECTION 12. Section 15 of said chapter 166A, as appearing in  
2 the 1984 official edition, is hereby amended by striking out the first  
3 two paragraphs and inserting in place thereof the following  
4 paragraph: —

5 "The regulation of rates shall be governed by the provisions of  
6 Title 47 of the United States Code, section 543. The commission  
7 shall be guided by and its decisions shall be consistent with those of  
8 the Federal Communications Commission under that section, and  
9 of policies established by the Federal Communications Com-  
10 mission."

1 SECTION 13. Section 16 of said chapter 166A, as amended by  
2 chapter 651 of the acts of 1985, is hereby amended by striking out,  
3 in the second and third sentences, the word "CATV" in each  
4 sentence and inserting in place thereof the word: "cable".

1 SECTION 14. Section 17 of chapter 166A, as appearing in the  
2 1984 official edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 3,  
3 the word "CATV" and inserting in place thereof the word: "cable".



1 SECTION 15. Section 20 of said chapter 166A, as appearing in  
2 the 1984 official edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in line  
3 1, the word "CATV" and inserting in place thereof the word:  
4 "cable".

1 SECTION 16. Section 21 of said chapter 166A, as appearing in  
2 the 1984 official edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in the  
3 caption, the words "Community Antenna" and inserting in place  
4 thereof the word: "Cable".

1 SECTION 17. Section 21 of chapter 166A, as appearing in the  
2 1984 official edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 3,  
3 the words "community antenna" and inserting in place thereof the  
4 word: "cable".

1 SECTION 18. The first, second, third, fifth, sixth, seventh,  
2 eighth, and ninth paragraphs of section 22 of chapter 166A, as  
3 amended by chapter 644 of the acts of 1985, are hereby amended  
4 by striking out the word "CATV" in each paragraph and inserting  
5 in place thereof the word: "cable".