



TACIR

The Tennessee Advisory Commission
on Intergovernmental Relations



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Commission Members

FROM: Cliff Lippard *Cliff*
Executive Director

DATE: 31 January 2019

SUBJECT: Cord Cutting and Local Government Revenue—Panel

The Commission's study of cord cutting and local government revenue examines factors affecting television and video entertainment services in Tennessee; whether changes in this market are affecting local government revenues; and whether any changes are warranted in the state's tax laws, cable franchising laws, or related laws governing processes for deploying infrastructure in public rights of way. The study was requested by then-Chairman Mark Norris at the January 26, 2018, Commission meeting.

Today you will hear from a panel of experts who will discuss the ways in which Tennessee's existing tax and fee structure and related issues affect different types of providers within the evolving market for video entertainment services:

- Andy Macke, Vice President of External Affairs, Comcast, speaking on behalf of the Tennessee Cable Telecommunications Association
- Bruce Mottern, Manager, State Government Affairs, TDS, speaking on behalf of the Tennessee Telecommunications Association
- Damon Stewart, Of Counsel, Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe, speaking on behalf of DISH
- Jeremy Elrod, Director of Government Relations, Tennessee Municipal Electric Power Association (TMEPA), speaking on behalf of both TMEPA and the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association
- Joelle Phillips, President, AT&T, Tennessee

Representatives for the Tennessee Municipal League and the Tennessee County Services Association have agreed to be available to answer questions if called upon.

Representatives for CenturyLink were invited to serve on the panel but were unable to attend because of a scheduling conflict. Representatives for the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) were invited to address any issues related to TVA's pole attachment rate formula but were also unable to attend.