



ROBERT MENENDEZ  
UNITED STATES SENATOR

October 15, 2010

Mr. James Dolan  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Cablevision Systems Corporation  
1111 Stewart Avenue  
Bethpage, New York 11714

Mr. Rupert Murdoch  
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer  
News Corporation  
1211 Avenue of Americas  
New York, New York 100325

Dear Sirs:

I understand that your companies are engaged in negotiations regarding the renewal of the retransmission consent agreement for WNYW (NY channel 5), WWOR (NY channel 9) and WTXF (Philadelphia channel 29). I write to urge that in the ongoing negotiations, the interests of viewers should be given due consideration.

While the negotiations between your two companies are a private matter, I feel it appropriate to remind you of the impact your inability to reach an agreement would have on the lives of millions of New Jerseyans. I urge both sides to come to an expedited agreement, keeping in mind the excitement in my state for the upcoming National League Championship Series with the Philadelphia Phillies and the New York Giants football game. Even at a time when pay-TV services are becoming increasingly common in households nation-wide, the fact is that free over-the-air broadcast remains a vital source of news, information and entertainment for tens of millions of Americans, including millions of families in New Jersey. As the negotiations between your companies continue, it is my hope that the needs of New Jersey families are front and center in your considerations.

I am concerned about the increasing frequency of these breakdowns in negotiations between content and service providers, and the impact they have on New Jersey families. Ultimately, it is the consumers who pay the costs for the failure of these two sides to come to an equitable agreement. It is my hope that the increased frequency of negotiation breakdowns can be reversed as I strongly believe that consumers should have a reasonable expectation to receive scheduled programming without constant fear of disruption.

I appreciate the hard work your companies are doing to complete these negotiations in a manner that protects New Jersey consumers. It is their interests that are my greatest concern, as I am certain they are for you, as well.

Sincerely,

ROBERT MENENDEZ  
United States Senator

Not Paid for at Government Expense.

