



**ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEES ON
CORPORATIONS, AUTHORITIES AND COMMISSIONS and ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT, JOB CREATION, COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

SUBJECT: Providing Affordable and High Quality Cable, Broadband, and Telephone Service

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to examine the telecommunications marketplace and the ability of consumers to obtain affordable and high quality cable, broadband, and telephone service. The Committees are particularly interested in examining whether competition in the marketplace is sufficiently providing affordable and high quality cable, broadband, and telephone service.

**January 20, 2016
11:00 AM
Hearing Room C
Legislative Office Building, 2nd Floor
Albany, NY 12248**

ORAL TESTIMONY WILL BE BY INVITATION ONLY

With new companies and technologies competing with traditional telephone and cable companies in recent years, the telecommunications marketplace is undergoing a major transformation that has impacted the quality and cost of service. At the same time, the nature, scope and jurisdiction of State and Federal regulation are in a period of transition as regulators attempt to keep pace with changes in the telecommunications marketplace. Changes, such as the possible consolidation, merging, entry, or exit of cable, telephone, and broadband providers, could have a significant impact on consumers.

At this hearing, the Assembly Committee on Corporations, Authorities, and Commissions and the Committee on Economic Development, Job Creation, Commerce and Industry will examine current options for cable, broadband, and telephone service across the state and how state laws and regulations are impacting these services. The insight gained from this hearing will aid the Committees when they consider future legislation that affects telecommunications providers and the adequacy of the State's current regulation.

In addition, on June 23, 2015, the New York State Department of Public Service issued a report entitled a "Staff Assessment of Telecommunications Services." This hearing will also be an opportunity for participants to respond to the Committees on the report and explore potential reforms that would benefit consumers. This report is accessible on the Department's website at: <http://www.dps.ny.gov> or you may [click here](#).

Persons invited to present pertinent testimony to the Committees at the above hearing should complete and return the enclosed reply form as soon as possible. It is important that the reply form be fully completed and returned so that persons may be notified in the event of emergency postponement or cancellation.

Ten copies of any prepared testimony should be submitted at the hearing registration desk. The Committees would appreciate advance receipt of prepared statements.

In order to further publicize these hearings, please inform interested parties and organizations of the Committees' interest in considering testimony from all sources.

In order to meet the needs of those who may have a disability, the Assembly, in accordance with its policy of non-discrimination on the basis of disability, as well as the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), has made its facilities and services available to all individuals with disabilities. For individuals with disabilities, accommodations will be provided, upon reasonable request, to afford such individuals access and admission to Assembly facilities and activities.

**James F. Brennan
Member of Assembly
Chair
Committee on Corporations,
Authorities and Commissions**

**Robin Schimminger
Member of Assembly
Chair
Committee on Economic Development,
Job Creation, Commerce and Industry**

PUBLIC HEARING REPLY FORM

Persons invited to present testimony at the public hearing are requested to complete this reply form **as soon as possible** and mail or fax it to:

Robert L. Franchini
Legislative Analyst
Assembly Committee on Corporations, Authorities and Commissions
NYS State Capitol Building
Room 513
Albany, New York 12224
Phone: (518) 455-4881
Fax: (518) 455-7250

- I plan to attend the public hearing on cable, broadband, and telephone service and the telecommunications marketplace to be held by the Assembly Standing Committee on Corporations, Authorities and Commissions and the Standing Committee on Economic Development, Job Creation, Commerce and Industry.
- I have been invited to make a public statement at the hearing. I will answer any questions that may arise. I will provide 10 copies of my prepared statement.
- I would like to be added to the Committee mailing list for notices and reports.
- I would like to be removed from the Committee mailing list.
- I will require assistance and/or handicapped accessibility information. **Please specify the type of assistance required:** _____

NAME: _____

TITLE: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

FAX TELEPHONE: _____