



STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**GARY HEBL**  
46TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

**For Immediate Release**  
August 7, 2009

**Contact:** Rep. Hebl  
608-266-7678

## **Article on 2007 Cable Bill On Target**

Dear Editor Mella,

*The Herald Independent's* recent coverage on the detrimental effects that the 2007 Cable Bill is having on our local Public, Governmental and Educational (PEG) channels is right on target. I'm so glad that *The Herald Independent* is bringing attention to the issue of cable regulation in Wisconsin and the many negative impacts that 2007 cable legislation has brought to our state.

As many of your readers may know, I was very opposed to the 2007 legislation and fought to amend the bill before passage to prevent many of the problems we are now experiencing as a result of this bill. Ever since its passage I have been committed to righting the wrongs created by the 2007 cable bill and working with the many of those affected by the bill to draft legislation addressing our concerns. Governor Doyle was able to do a lot with his veto pen to improve the bill, but the follow up legislation he called for in his veto message can and must be brought to the state legislature this session.

The channel slamming and funding slashing that you mentioned in your article are just plain wrong, but I'm sorry to say that these issues are only the tip of a very large iceberg. There are a number of other problems that effect PEG channels, such as conflicts over the providers' responsibility to provide transmission lines and unreasonable burdens on PEG channels to purchase new equipment to meet the technology needs of the large video service providers. Everyday that these problems remain unresolved means more viewers lost and an increasing threat to the survival of our local stations.

Again, I want to thank you for highlighting this important issue in our local media. If any of your readers would like additional information on this issue or would like to express their support for our local PEG Channels, they are more than welcome to contact me at 266-7678.

Sincerely,

GARY HEBL  
State Representative  
46<sup>th</sup> Assembly District  
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