

10 To Do's in 10 Days

Mobilizing Your Community Against the Verizon Bill* In Time for the June 5th Hearing at the State House

*Massachusetts Senate Bill No. 1975, House Bill No. 3385

Read the bill here → <http://www.mass.gov/legis/bills/senate/185/st01/st01975.htm>

- May 22** Forward this “10 To Do’s” sheet to anyone you know who works in a Massachusetts Cable TV Station / Community Media Center, and then call them up to make sure they got it, they know what they need to do, and are committed to doing it. If they live or work near you, invite them to accompany you to the June 5th 10:00 a.m. Public Hearing at the State House, Room A-2. More people means more fun and more impact!
- May 23** Get in touch with your State Representatives and State Senators and urge them to vocally oppose Verizon’s statewide franchising bill! Fax and email the attached handout called “Top 10 Reasons to Oppose the Verizon Bill” to your state legislators, and then follow up with a phone call. Try to schedule a meeting with them prior to the June 5th Public Hearing, and ask them to urge their colleagues to oppose the bill. Ask if they will come to the June 5th Public Hearing and speak against the bill.
- May 24** Get in touch with your local elected officials and urge them to vocally oppose Verizon’s statewide franchising bill and pass a resolution opposing it! Fax the attached handout called “Top 10 Reasons to Oppose the Verizon Bill” to your local elected officials, and then follow up with a phone call. Get them to pass a resolution at their next meeting opposing the Verizon bill. For sample resolutions, go to <http://www.keepitlocalma.com> and click on the “Locals Take Action” link at the top of the page. Finally, ask your local elected officials if they will come to the June 5th Public Hearing and speak out against the bill.
- May 25** Write letters of opposition to the editors of your local newspaper and to the Boston Globe, Boston Herald, Worcester Telegram, and other regional newspapers, and cc: your state legislators. If you need help crafting your letter, sample letters are available at the “www.keepitlocalma.com” link listed under May 24th.
- May 26-28** Relax and enjoy the Memorial Day weekend! Save up your energy for the big push during the final full week before the Public Hearing.

**May
29**

Call other community leaders, especially those representing groups such as churches and non-profits and other membership organizations, who have used your local access center and urge them to vocally oppose the bill! Fax and email them this handout plus the attached handout called “Top 10 Reasons to Oppose the Verizon Bill” and copies of any letters you’ve written, and urge them to call and/or write their state representatives and state senators and the newspapers in opposition to the bill. Invite their members to come with you to the June 5th Public Hearing and speak against the bill.

**May
30**

Complete the two petitions posted at the links below, and forward the links and invitations to sign them to all your Massachusetts friends, colleagues, and family:

* <http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/KILLVERIZONBILL>

* <http://www.keepitlocalma.com/take%2Daction/>

**May
31**

Call back everyone you’ve spoken with and make sure they’ve done what you asked them to do. Make sure that you’ve arranged transportation for anyone who is going to accompany you to the June 5th Hearing at the State House. Suggest that they not come alone.

**June
1**

Keep making those calls. Catch up on any of the above To Do’s that you didn’t get to yet. Then tell us what you’re doing or have done. Send an email to john@cctvcambridge.org.

**June
4**

Write the written testimony that you will submit at the Public Hearing; it can be as long as you want. Then write a 1-minute only speech that you will deliver orally on June 5th. Don’t forget to confirm travel arrangements for all the people joining you at the State House Hearing.

**June
5**

Come to the State House Hearing on June 5th in Room A-2. The Hearing starts at 10:00 a.m., but come early to assure a spot in the room and a chance to speak. Look for the book where you sign up to speak. Then look for the people handing out stickers and leis, and proudly wear these displays signaling opposition to the bill. Don’t forget to submit your written testimony opposing the bill. Address it to:

Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy
Room 473B
State House
Boston, MA 02133
Telephone: (617) 722-2263