

RESOLUTION 11-2008

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF MALABAR, FLORIDA, REQUESTING THAT BRIGHT HOUSE NETWORKS CABLE COMPANY MOVE BACK THE GOVERNMENT CHANNELS FROM 199 TO 99, 198 TO 9; PROVIDE ACCESS TO THOSE CHANNELS FREE OF CHARGE TO BREVARD COUNTY RESIDENTS; REQUEST BREVARD COUNTY AND BREVARD COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES ADOPT A SIMILAR RESOLUTIONS AND FORWARD IT TO BRIGHT HOUSE NETWORKS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Town of Malabar and its residents have had long standing franchise relations with Bright House Networks cable company; and

WHEREAS, the government channels are a significant means for residents, particularly those who are physically unable to attend government meetings, to access critical local government information; and

WHEREAS, on January 19, 2008, Bright House Cable Company, moved the Brevard County Government Access Channel from analog 99 to digital cable 199 and the Brevard County Public Schools Channel from analog 9 to digital 198; and

WHEREAS, cable customers, who subscribe to Bright House services, who wish to continue to view the government channels, and do not have a television set with a digital tuner, are now required to rent a box for \$1 per month from Bright House Networks Customer Care Centers, while the customers who subscribe to Comcast cable package, would have to pay \$17 more per month to continue to watch the government channels; and

WHEREAS, the relocation of local government access televisions to digital channels could make it more difficult and more expensive for residents to watch their elected officials in action;

WHEREAS, on January 22, 2008, the Brevard County Commission expressed their concern for moving the Government Channels to higher-numbered channels; and

WHEREAS, Cities and Counties in Florida, including the City of Tampa, St. Petersburg, and Hillsborough County have expressed disagreement and have challenged the channel changes; and

WHEREAS, Malabar residents have expressed frustration and confusion with the change in government channels.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MALABAR:

SECTION 1. That Bright House Networks:

Continue to support local government access by ensuring government cable channels are conveniently located and free of charge;

Restore the location of the government channels from 199 to 99 and from 198 to channel 9;

SECTION 2. That the Town encourages Brevard County and Brevard County municipalities adopt similar resolutions;

SECTION 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption

This Resolution was moved for adoption by Council Member _____.
This motion was seconded by Council Member _____ and, upon being
put to vote, the vote was as follows:

Council Member Nancy Borton	_____
Council Member Brian Vail	_____
Council Member Charles (Chuck) McClelland	_____
Council Member Jeffrey (Jeff) McKnight	_____
Council Member Patricia D. Dezman	_____

This Resolution was then declared to be duly passed and adopted this 3rd day
of March, 2008.

By: TOWN OF MALABAR

Mayor Thomas M. Eschenberg

Approved as to form and content:

Karl W. Bohne, Jr., Town Attorney

ATTEST:

Debby K. Franklin
Town Clerk/Treasurer
(seal)