

COLORADO

March 19, 2020

Denver7 – The Denver Channel
123 Speer Blvd.
Denver, Colorado 80203

9NEWS
500 E. Speer Blvd.
Denver, CO 80203

Fox 31 Denver KDVR-TV
Colorado's Own Channel 2 KWGN-TV
100 East Speer Blvd.
Denver, Colorado 80203

DISH
9601 S. Meridian Boulevard
Englewood, CO 80112

CBS 4 News
1044 Lincoln St.
Denver, CO 80203

AT&T Entertainment Group
2250 E. Imperial Hwy FL 10
El Segundo, CA 90245

To Whom It May Concern:

For years, satellite subscribers in La Plata and Montezuma counties have lacked access to local television. Instead of receiving Denver-based news, sports, and other content, residents in both counties have received broadcasts from Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The outbreak of the novel coronavirus, or COVID-19, is an urgent reminder that access to local news is not a mere convenience for local residents. It is a critical matter of public health and wellbeing for Coloradans who need the ability to keep up with rapidly developing circumstances related to the pandemic, from local announcements about school closures to the availability of testing and treatment to state government responses to limit the spread of the virus.

Given the stakes, we urge all parties to move expeditiously to reach, at a minimum, a temporary solution to allow residents in La Plata and Montezuma counties to access Denver-based programming until the pandemic abates.

Over the years, we have worked closely with all parties to resolve this issue, and we appreciate the ongoing efforts of all sides to reach an agreement. We recognize that there is no easy solution. These extraordinary circumstances, however, demand creative solutions and urgent progress. Inaction is not an option in this extraordinary time, when all of Colorado needs access to vitally important news from our state.

Thank you for your attention to these issues, and we look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Senator Michael F. Bennet

Senator Cory Gardner

Congressman Scott R. Tipton

Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser