



# AMERICANS *for* TAX REFORM

Grover G. Norquist  
*President*

December 12, 2007

Governor Jim Doyle  
State Capitol  
P.O. Box 7863  
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Governor Doyle,

**In light of the passage of Assembly Bill 207 through both chambers of the Michigan legislature, I urge you to take this opportunity to sign this bill and deregulate the video franchising system.** Allowing new entrants into the video services market would bring to Wisconsin consumers the benefit of choices and lower prices.

Throughout the nation, video providers are forced to negotiate complex contracts with over 30,000 franchising jurisdictions – a significant barrier to entry for new competitors. In fact, if a provider obtained a franchise agreement in one jurisdiction per day, it would take more than eighty years to be able to reach every subscriber in America.

The archaic franchising system currently in place in Wisconsin dates back to a time when no competition existed between the cable and telecommunications industries, allowing local governments to tax and regulate both services without consequence. Despite the growth of industries ready to offer diverse and innovative video services, the current system stifles competition and deprives consumers of choices.

**Assembly Bill 207 would be a movement in the right direction – a movement toward innovation, competition and choice.** By removing the maze of local regulations that currently restrain the free market, such a reform measure would liberate consumers and new industries without penalizing the incumbent video providers that have paved the way.

I urge you to reform the state's video franchise system without choosing winners and losers by enacting this bill. Wisconsin taxpayers are depending on you to deregulate the system for all participants – new and incumbent providers - in the market. **With your signature, AB 207 will become a positive step for Wisconsin.**

Onward,

Grover Norquist

1920 L Street NW

Suite 200

Washington, DC

20036

T: (202) 785-0266

F: (202) 785-0261

[www.atr.org](http://www.atr.org)



# AMERICANS *for* TAX REFORM

Grover G. Norquist  
*President*

1920 L Street NW

Suite 200

Washington, DC

20036

T: (202) 785-0266

F: (202) 785-0261

*[www.atr.org](http://www.atr.org)*