

**HOWARD COUNTY CABLE TELEVISION  
SYSTEMS FRANCHISE ACT****14.700 Short Title.**

This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Howard County Cable Television Systems Franchise Act."

**14.701 Definitions.**

For the purpose of this Act: (a) when not inconsistent with the context, words used in the present tense include the future, words in the plural number include the singular number, and words in the singular number include the plural number (b) The word "shall" is always mandatory and not merely directory (c) The following terms, phrases, words and their derivations shall have the meaning given herein:

A. "Howard County" means Howard County, Maryland, a municipal corporation.

B. "Council" means the present County Council of Howard County or any successor to the legislative powers of the present County Council.

C. "Executive" means the present County Executive of Howard County or any successor to the present County Executive.

D. "Person" means any individual, partnership, association, corporation, legal entity or organization of any kind.

E. "Community Antenna Television System", means a system composed of, without limitation, antenna, cables, wires, lines, towers, wave guides, laser beams, or any other conductors, converters, equipment or facilities, designed, constructed or wired for the purpose of producing, receiving, amplifying and distributing by coaxial cable audio and/or visual radio, television, electronic or electrical signals to and from persons, subscribers and locations in Howard County, Maryland.

F. "Streets" means the surface of and the space above and below any street, road, highway, freeway, bridge, land path, alley, court, boulevard, sidewalk, parkway, waterway, docks, wharf, pier, tunnel and public ground now or hereafter existing within Howard County, and shall be now held or hereafter held by Howard County which shall within their proper use and meaning entitle Howard County and its Grantee to use thereof for the purpose of installing or transmitting CATV transmissions over poles, wire, cables, conductors, ducts, conduits, vaults, manholes, amplifiers, appliances, attachments and other property as may ordinarily be necessary and pertinent to a CATV system.

G. "Franchise" means the non-exclusive authorization granted pursuant to this Act to occupy or use the streets within Howard County for the construction, operation and maintenance of a Community Antenna Television System within the County limits of Howard County.

H. "Grantee" means the person, company or corporation so designated by the County Executive and the County Council to receive a non-exclusive franchise.

I. "Subscriber" means any person or entity receiving for any purpose the CATV service of the Grantee for a fee.

J. "Gross Annual Receipts" shall mean all revenue derived directly or indirectly by the Grantee, its affiliates, subsidiaries, parents, and any