We need the FCC to defend the rights of millions of Internet users by upholding net neutrality protections. The FCC should reject Chairman Ajit Pai’s proposal to give the ISP monopolies like AT&T, Comcast, and Verizon the authority to throttle whatever they please, stripping Internet users of the meaningful privacy and access protections we worked for and just recently won. I’m concerned about ISPs being allowed to discriminate against certain types of data or websites because users will have fewer options and a less diverse Internet. Thankfully, the existing net neutrality rules mean that ISP monopolies can’t slow or block consumers’ access to certain web services or engage in data discrimination by charging online services and websites more money to reach consumers faster. That’s the best way forward to make sure competition in the Internet space is fair and benefits small businesses and consumers as well as entrenched Internet companies. Chairman Pai’s proposed repeal of the rules would transform ISPs into Internet gatekeepers with the ability to veto new innovation and expression. That’s not how the Internet was built, and that's not what we want. The internet matters to me because as a non discriminatory platform, it upholds our ideals of democracy and a free market. I urge you to keep Title II net neutrality in place, and safeguard Internet users like me.

Louis C Russo Jr