

To whom it may concern,

Rollback of Title II protections for the Internet portion of the telecom industry is a large step backward for the good of the Internet as a whole. The current day United States of America functions on the principles of an open Internet, free from corporate censorship and throttling. Internet connectivity is important in leveraging opportunities for all citizens and should continue to be relevant regardless of physical location and circumstance.

For example, paragraph 82 asks for input on throttling. Allowing mobile carriers to throttle certain services and websites amounts to preferential access to services within the umbrella of the company, artificially making it more difficult to access preferred resources. In a real-world analogy, this would amount to a retail store raising the price of prescription medicine in order to maximize profits on their in-house brand. It limits choice and stifles competition.

As a whole, the above point is what concerns me most. It stifles competition, creating monopolies or near-monopolies in certain regions of the U.S. as well as creating a consumer-hostile environment within the ISP industry. While the protections may not be perfect they are a step in the right direction in order to keep the Internet free and available for all.

Thank you,
Lawton Takaesu