To the Board at the FCC July 19th, 2017

Los Angeles, California

Dear All, particularly Mr. Ajit Pai,

The ideological restraints that have been placed on your evaluation of the state of internet freedom have rendered the nonsense of your current policy recommendation.

To evaluate the internet based on the arbitrary and sectarian view of service providers, ignores the very thing that is being provided. It is the open and free flow of all information that is the defining purpose of the internet. Any restrictions, decided by the few and affecting the many, should be obviously anathema to those trusted with a responsibility over the promise and intent of the preeminent technology of our time.

The fact that you seem willing to ignore the voices of the human beings subjected to your decree, seems to clearly evince your deliberate ideological blindness. To favor commanding economic interests over the world’s need for the content of the internet is a travesty of algorithmically epic proportions, for which you should feel profound shame. Falling back onto the parroting of free market dogma in the face of humanity’s cry for a freedom you are entrusted with, is the insult you mockingly deploy before the injury you intend. That you do this to favor profitable near-monopolies is outrageous.

The free and unencumbered flow of information may pass through the conduit built by these entities, but that should not mean that they will be given the right to control and restrict it for their own exploitative ends. Paid prioritization is to favor the owner of a hose, over the thirst of everyone who depends on the water. To entrust the power of that decision to the hands of those who can profit by restricting the flow is to abandon all reason. No one’s thirst should be deemed less desperate than another’s. This is the fate you lobby for, and you nonsensically call it ‘freedom’. For whom?!

The introduction of these deliberate and self-serving preferences, marks the end of the Open Internet.

The Open Internet is the **Primary Utility** of the Information Age. While it may be true that Title II could use a thoughtful upgrade for the new millennium, the fairness it sought is years beyond your small thinking on these matters. **The internet should be regulated as a utility. Service providers are common carriers and should be regulated as such.**

Sincerely disappointed in your actions thus far,

Ivan Thillet