

Dear Chair Pai,

I am in favor of guaranteeing the strongest possible net neutrality protection by maintaining regulation of Internet Service Providers (ISPs) under Title II of the Telecommunications Act. As such, I am adamantly against your commission's proposed "Restoring Internet Freedom" proceeding.

The FCC's Open Internet Rules (commonly referred to as "net neutrality") are extremely important to the healthy functioning of the Internet and the unrestricted dissemination of ideas, data, and information that are vital to our democracy. I urge the FCC to continue to protect the free dissemination of speech. ISPs, many of whom are preparing to merge with content providers in the expectation that net neutrality will be eviscerated under your watch, cannot be given the power to block disfavored websites or slow down their transmission speeds, or equivalently, give preferred web sites an economic or speed advantage over others. Any preferential treatment would effectively split the Internet into "fast lanes" for companies that pay the ISPs (or are in some way aligned with or favored by the the ISPs) and "slow lanes" for the rest of the Internet.

Censorship by ISPs would become a serious problem under your proposal, which would very likely restrict consumer choice and impede the ability of new businesses to gain access to the Internet. Abandoning net neutrality would kill the open marketplace that has enabled millions of small businesses to thrive, and indeed, the growth of five of the most valuable companies in America – FAANG.

Even more horrific is the fact that, under your plan, ISPs will have the power to make it more difficult for the public to access political speech that ISPs don't like. They would be allowed to charge fees for website delivery that would make it harder for blogs, nonprofits, artists, and activists who can't pay to have their voices heard. This is a form of suppression of free speech that cannot be permitted under our constitution.

I support the existing net neutrality rules based on Title II, and denounce the FCC's proposal to eviscerate them under the current proceeding. Protect the free flow of ideas on the Internet!

Sincerely yours,

Deborah Garvey