August 29, 2017

Dear Chairman Pai,

I am very much opposed to the FCC's proposed reclassification of broadband Internet access service as an information service. I believe that it should remain classified as a telecommunications service and retain the associated regulatory controls that would preserve net neutrality.

I have internet access, including voice-over-IP phone service, through an ISP. In addition to making phone calls, I use the internet multiple times per day to connect to a variety of websites around the country. Even though ISPs may also provide other services such as email or cloud storage, I use other providers of these services – this is not the reason that I contract with my ISP.

I do not believe that changing the net neutrality rules will benefit consumers in any way. In our area, we only have 2 options for internet access and the prices are comparable. Eliminating regulation by classifying ISP as information service providers is likely to result in a reduction of our broadband speeds (which are already poor) and/or an increase in the price we must pay to obtain reasonable broadband service.

For all of these reasons, I urge you to scrap the current proposal and leave broadband Internet access as a telecommunications service. Many other developed countries already view internet access as a public good, similar to access to a public water supply or other utilities, and provide these services at much less cost than in the U.S. If we are to maintain progress and economic productivity as a nation, we cannot allow internet access to be distributed inequitably based on an ability to pay whatever the ISPs demand.

Sincerely,

Nisson Schechter