To whom it may concern,

I am a student at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois and I am leaving a comment with the FCC because I strongly oppose the net neutrality rollback being supported by Ajit Pai.

I study chemical engineering and many of my academic resources have come from my ability to freely search the internet. Textbooks, study guides, videos, and online resources have helped me learn concepts more deeply, especially since they are easily accessible on the computer and on my phone.

So much of learning is online now – before everything was done on paper, but in the four years I’ve been at university I’ve seen a massive shift away from physical documentation. Forms I filled out by hand freshman year are now submitted with the click of a button. Instead of forcing students to pay for a $200 hard copy textbook, professors share PDFs with their students. Even the need to physically be in class is being done away with, with the use of pre-recorded online lectures.

My point is that my life has become virtual very quickly and the money I pay to attend university is being invested in online tools and resources, many of which are public. To impose additional charges to to learn is inconceivable and only works to isolate poorer students don’t have the money to pay for faster broadband plans.

It is your job as an organization of the people to protect us from being abused by large corporations. I know there is widespread support for net neutrality amongst the scientific community. Equal access to the internet only aids in communicating innovations in science. Repealing net neutrality will hurt our ability as citizens to learn, be exposed to new information, and better ourselves which will only have repercussions down the line.