

As I'm sure you and your staff are aware, once again the discussion has arisen to allow internet service providers to self-regulate access for consumers- commonly referred to as the repeal of "Title II net neutrality".

In my 20+ year career in technology, I have seen this argument arise every few years and from those of us in the tech industry it has never been regarded as beneficial to the consumer, society, the United States' economy, First Amendment rights, or literally anyone except the cable and telecom carriers. We will be thrown back 25 years and fall further behind the rest of the developed world in science, technology, and academic collaboration.

We, the American people, paid for the development of the technology used on the internet. We, the American people, paid for the infrastructure that technology uses, in the form of subsidies and grants to allow for faster access to information. The carriers have not only not provided the level of service promised years ago, but have coalesced into monopolistic giants that result in many Americans already having little or no choice in Internet Service Providers for access. To tell the American public that these same companies will now improve our service willingly, without outside oversight, is an insult to the public.

I urge you, and all members of the government at all levels, to take the interests of the American People to heart, not the interests of lobbyists and corporate entities.

Protect a free and open Internet. Protect Net Neutrality.

Thank You,

John Norton