I strongly support net neutrality and Title II classification of common carriers, such as Verizon, Comcast, AT&T, Time Warner Cable, etc. By rescinding the net neutrality framework, these corporations will fleece the American people to line their own pockets. So far, ISP’s have not shown that they are capable of allowing a free and open internet without the Title II classification. Comcast has already edited the net neutrality statement on their website in anticipation of this change . . . even though they have publically said that rolling back Title II regulations will not change their business practices. In 2012, AT&T restricted access to FaceTime on their cellular network according to the customer’s data plan. They even went so far as to block customers with grandfathered unlimited data plans from using FaceTime until the customer changed the data plan to one of AT&T’s tiered plans.

Chairman Pai believes that the free market will control the ISPs and force them to behave in a manner that is consumer friendly. I disagree. In many areas, there are only one or two ISPs which does not provide enough competition for price controls or other consumer friendly practices. In my area, there are only two providers, Comcast and AT&T. Both companies allow promotional pricing for a year but after the promotional period is over, prices skyrocket. Unfortunately, there isn’t enough competition on the area to keep prices in check after the promotional period has passed. My current cable/internet bill with AT&T is $200 monthly for basic cable and 12mbps. Comcast bills are not that much cheaper and Comcast’s customer service is legendary for their outright hostility and dishonesty to their customers. Thus I am left with little option but to use AT&T for service. If Title II regulations are rescinded, I expect my cable bill will rise significantly as there will be nothing to stop AT&T from charging me extra to watch Netflix/Hulu, check Facebook/Twitter, or to pay my bills online.

I ask that the net neutrality framework not be rescinded. Doing so will cause irreparable damage to the free and open internet.