Dear Chairman Pai,

I understand that recently there has been a proposal to reduce internet user protections as outlined in Title II of the Communications Act. I believe that this would be a grave mistake. Public internet, in its infancy, was always conceptualized as a public good; a free, universal source of information, ideas, and communication. In recent times, it has become more than that. Public internet has become the functional cornerstone of our democracy. It is the primary sphere for shared dialogue, mobilization efforts, personal research of policy and proposals, and the free and open publishing of thought. In such a way, it encourages a society of individuals who are well-informed and prepared to participate in democratic activity. The dismantling of Title II is, to me, indicative of an increasingly destructive and concerning tendency in American politics, in which the needs and desires of the American public is being sidelined in favor of obvious corporate interests. I believe you, Chairman Pai, and your agency, therefore carry not only a civic responsibility, but also a moral responsibility, to preserve the protections outlined in Title II. I hope that my frank and civil thoughts on this important matter will stir you to appropriate action. If not, then I hope you will listen instead to Sir Tim Berners-Lee; the inventor of the World Wide Web, and public internet as we know it today.

“One of the things I always remain concerned about is that that medium remains neutral.”

“It’s not just where I go to decide where to buy my shoes which is the commercial incentive - it’s where I go to decide who I’m going to trust to vote.”

“It’s where I go maybe to decide what sort of religion I’m going to belong to; it’s where I go to decide what is actual scientific truth - what I’m actually going to go along with and what is bunkum.”

Sincerely,

Marcus Ganser