Dear Chairman Pai, and others it may concern:

I urge to please not overturn the Net Neutrality legislation. Free and accessible internet access for all is extremely important. An end to net neutrality would drastically stack the playing field against low income families and students. The internet is a necessary tool for learning and in schools, and if children were prevented from doing homework because their family could not afford the same level of internet access, as now regulated by corporations, as other families, this would perpetuate the cycle of poverty, and obliterate the fair playing field that unrestricted access to information currently creates.

In addition, the internet has been an invaluable tool for many who struggle with mental illness. With the relative anonymity many sites provide, they feel comfortable speaking out, and speaking with others who share their struggles. One of the great treatments for mental illness is sharing the struggle with others, and being supported by those who truly understand. Voting against net neutrality would remove this lifeline from many in need.

The internet is also a wonderful resource for people to escape from bullies, find their passion in life, foster American entrepreneurship (sites like Kickstarter and GoFundMe), communicate with friends and loved ones around the world (Facebook, Skype), and have access to independent films that may otherwise not have a wide audience (non-blockbuster movies on Netflix and Amazon). Overturning net neutrality may have unforeseen consequences on the economy, as well as the lives of the American people.

Finally, please consider delaying the vote until the numerous comments determined to have been submitted by foreign hackers have been sussed out and removed from the record. This vote should reflect the will of the American people (which is strongly in favor of maintaining net neutrality), and tampering by foreign persons is undermining the foundation of our democracy.

Please consider what I have said, and support maintaining net neutrality (a term which dates at least back to the Bush administration). Thank you!

Sincerely,

Miriam Efken

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