From: Scott H. Vander Linde, Ph.D.

To: FCC

Re: DA 17-1089: Comment on reversing Net-Neutrality rule.

Date: December 14, 2017

As an economist who is has researched competition in markets and impediments to competition for decades, I strongly encourage you to not reverse the current net-neutrality rule. If one desires a character of competition that will lead to innovation and low consumer prices in the net-based economy and e-commerce, equal access speed is the way to maintain low barriers to entry for new e-commerce businesses. By reversing the NN rule, you will be at best permanently ‘oligopolizing’ net based industry, protecting existing large players by creating a large barrier to entry for upstart companies. Arguably, the current players would not exist without net-neutrality. It makes no sense for making these ‘current winners,’ the permanent winners in this area of the economy. We have learned the over many decades the implication such power in markets have on both consumer pricing and political process. Reversing the rule appears as nothing more than another give-away to preferred special interests, verses the character of an open, democratic economy that we who espouse free markets that serve consumer interests, espouse.

Please do not reverse the net-neutrality rule.