

Short Version: PLEASE KEEP NET NEUTRALITY. PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE. Long Version: Hi. I don't really know if anyone will even actually be reading this (I'm impressed if you are - go FCC!), but I just wanted to say it's inexpressible how important net neutrality is. INEXPRESSIBLE. It is literally (well, ok, not literally, but give me a break - I'm a teenager) the heart and soul of the internet. And, being a teenager (who is privileged enough to own a computer and have internet access), I care an awful lot about the online world. As I hope you do too. Now, in America, we have a lot of inequality - there's rampant racism, sexism, classism, agism, LGBTQ-phobia, religious stigmatization... I could go on, but I'll save you from that boredom:D Basically, our country - bless America - but our country has a lot of problems. One of the only places that is a relatively open playing field right now, and isn't unfairly controlled by *someone* - anyone - is the internet. Not to get all dramatic, but the internet has changed youth culture and the entire American psyche. It has provided thousands with information, connections that would have been impossible 50 years ago, the ability to explore other beliefs and opinions, and a bewildering flood of useless but adorable cat memes. The internet is one of the reasons I feel so empowered - it gives me a voice, and it gives me the voices of others. And A BIG REASON that the internet is this great is it's non-discriminatory policy. Anyone is welcome, anyone can play. That's how facebook/google/amazon/netfix/literally every company our boringly one-dimensional society cares about and respects, started. The internet STARTED the grass roots movement idea. Heck, the internet was almost a grass roots movement itself. The little person can become the big guy, and it isn't about money right now (at least, not as much as the rest of the free market). Now, I know maybe some of you think that capitalism has its place in all parts of American society - OK, fine. Do your thang. Preach about the *rights* of cable companies to make big bucks by exploiting internet culture and the desires of consumers to have faster download speeds. Such an important cause to get behind. The 1%-ers are just slumming it right now. Whatever. (See? I'm definitely a teenager:D) But please just stop and think for a minute - who wins here? The business managers and CEO's sitting pretty in private planes? As a legislative body, please for just ONE LITTLE SECOND stop and reflect on the fact that the government is *for the people* and that the concept of net neutrality is 100% NOT A PROBLEM *for the people*. In fact, it's really not a problem for any decent human being - it just makes the internet a place where everyone has the same opportunities and has the same capacity to achieve success. Correct me if I'm wrong, but isn't that the 'American dream'? Don't we all supposedly live for that ish? The only reason anyone (i.e. you guys/the government at large) would ever dream of screwing with net neutrality is because the greedy cable companies have you in your pocket - they just keep throwing money at you and lobbying. (I mean, can someone please give me an actual, convincing legal argument as to why this bill needs to be passed? Anybody? Yup, that's what I thought.) And I get it. I really do. I'm an EXTREMELY disillusioned and pessimistic 16 year old, in case you couldn't already tell (random high five if you're still reading this lol, but you're not - like I said, disillusioned), so it's not like I don't understand the transformative power of money. The American government runs on corruption. It's just a fact of life. But let me tell you, that relationship where they throw money at you and you do whatever they say? That's also the M.O. of strippers and prostitutes. Keepin' it classy. I mean, wouldn't it be nice, JUST FOR ONCE, to do something on principle? Have some RESPECT for yourself. Cut the bs. (Haha sorry, I'm trying to keep this profanity-free, but I'm a passionate girl, ya feel?) Do it for the people of America who are - let's just be honest here - so done with all of the government's crap at this point that my generation is the least politically motivated we've ever seen. (You want to know why we don't show up to government voting booths anymore? You want to know why the entire country, not just one political demographic, is always unhappy with the sitting president/Congress? Crap like this. I promise you.) Anyway, that was SOOO LONG, so I'm kinda sorry, but I'm also really not. (In internet speak, we call that

#sorrynotsorry - but I'm sure y'all are tech-savvy enough:D) You needed to hear that. Somebody had to say it. The bottom line is this: Net neutrality represents a bastion of the American ideal of equality and opportunity. And if you fix what ain't broke, then all of you are immoral, corrupt fools. Don't do it. And finally, have a lovely day filing paperwork, or whatever it is you do at the FCC! K, byyye now:)