

Re: Protecting and Promoting the Open Internet, GN Docket No. 14-28, GN Docket No. 10-127

To Whom It May Concern:

On Friday, November 7, 2014, the following had conversations with Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel regarding the above-mentioned proceeding. David Segal, Demand Progress; Nathan White, Demand Progress; Becky Bond, Credo; Paul Ferris, SumOfUs; Carissa Miller, Daily Kos; Evan Greer, Fight for the Future; Ben Wikler, MoveOn; and Neil Sroka, Democracy for America.

During the conversations, Mr. White noted that while the Commissioners frequently hear from policy organizations and corporations, the organizations with a presence in the meeting represent grassroots memberships across the country, including Demand Progress's 2 million members. Ms. Bond explained that Credo has 3.5 million members in the United States; Mr. Ferris that SumOfUs has 1.5 million; Ms. Miller that Daily Kos has 1.8 million; Ms. Greer that Fight for the Future has 1.2 million; Mr. Wikler that MoveOn has 8 million; and Mr. Sroka that Democracy for America has 1 million.

Ms. Miller noted that Daily Kos is one of the largest online media platforms in the country that is concerned about sustaining independent media, and that Daily Kos's membership has been extraordinarily active on this issue, with tens of thousands of people taking time to write individualized comments to the FCC.

Mr. White noted that this issue has achieved the highest rates of activism by Demand Progress members in nearly two years.

As a group, the attendees explained that the attorneys on whom they rely for advisement about Internet policy unanimously believe that the so-called sender-side proposals would not withstand a challenge in court. They also noted that the proposed sender-side rules, as described in The Wall Street Journal, would allow ISPs to charge fees and discriminate. They reiterated their support for both at the organizational and membership levels for a strong rule that reclassifies broadband under Title II of the Telecommunications Act, and that bans fees and discrimination.

Mr. Segal asserted that the bulk of the members of the various organizations present would never support a rule other than one entailing the banning of fees and discrimination via reclassification, and urged the Commissioner to support a rule that Internet users could be rallied to support, rather than a flawed rule which would receive little popular backing.

Respectfully submitted,

David Segal  
Executive Director,  
Demand Progress