

60000987581.txt

To my friends at the FCC,

I am writing to you in response to the current debate surrounding Net Neutrality and what should be done regarding it. I am extremely concerned about the possibility of losing the protection Net Neutrality guarantees to a system where internet service providers (ISPs) could limit the connection speed or accessibility of some websites or services while not limiting others. This system would be remarkably easy to abuse, as whomever has business ties with the ISP in question could (and likely would) benefit from the reduced competition - if the other team can't get on the field, there would be no way for them to compete or win. The ISP behavior of limiting data transmission speed has been well documented - see the Netflix speed graph with Comcast during their "negotiations" earlier this year (<http://knowmore.washingtonpost.com/2014/04/25/the-hilarious-graph-of-netflix-speed-s-shows-the-importance-of-net-neutrality/>). To say that abuse would not occur should Net Neutrality be taken away is laughable if not a blatant lie.

I've grown up with an internet where anyone with an idea could accomplish amazing things - start a business, make friends in other countries, share ideas, collaborate in research. These endeavors necessitate an open and unrestricted internet with a level playing field for everyone. These opportunities can not exist when a party can limit anyone's ability to compete in the marketplace.

Thank you for reading and for your attention in this matter,
Travis James, Ph.D.