

**STATEMENT TO THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION BY
TIMOTHY-ALLEN ALBERTSON, AMATEUR RADIO GENERAL CLASS LICENSE
CALLSIGN KD0OIA, IN OPPOSITION TO ADOPTING ANY REGULATION IN
PROCEEDING NO. 14-28, OR OTHERWISE, TO SUBJECT THE INTERNET TO
REGULATION BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

I oppose regulation of the Internet by the Federal Communications Commission as proposed in proceeding no. 14-28, or otherwise. Indeed, I oppose government intervention or control regarding content of data or information transmitted over the Internet

An open market approach has led the development and improvement to the Internet, both technically and economically, making it so widely available to Americans. Competition has led to better technology and lower prices and will continue to lead to lowering prices and greater accessibility.

Requiring Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to carry any specific content of information and data is a violation of the Free Speech Clause of the First Amendment which, according to many SCOTUS decisions, protects being required to make speech mandated by the state. ISPs are different in this regard than telephone carriers who solely provide time for people to communicate and do not have even the ability to know what the content of that speech is.

ISPs have, In My Humble Opinion, a First Amendment right to refuse to carry any speech they do not like and to refuse to say things they do not like. Some restrict the content of information and data transmitted on their networks and thus have found a niche in the market place for certain customers who do not want exposure to certain information and data such as pornography and other sexualized content. However, most ISPs, especially the larger ones, do not censor the content of the data and information on their networks.

Government mandated censorship, despite a current effort by many to block speech which offends them generally under the trite belief in Political Correctness, is a very anti-American idea and practice even, if not especially, when, as in many cases it pertains to a certain religion, it comes from government such as the current President.

The First Amendment Guarantee and Protection of Freedom of Speech, as the famous quote goes, does not protect those with whom one agrees for what protection do they need, rather it protects those with whom one disagrees. Even if these proposed regulations do not result in censorship, or mandated speech, they still effect a chill on Freedom of Speech because people, especially ISPs, will become fearful of what they say, and what they are required to say, in the transmission of information and data on their networks.

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Finally, I would submit that this proceeding no. 14-28, or any other government regulation of the content on speech on the Internet, will chill and thwart the further technical development of the Internet. People will not exert efforts to develop things which the Commission will thwart their use or specifically regulate the charges that may be made by those innovators.

If the Commission wants to improve access to the Internet, and further the access of certain data and information, it should direct its attention to finding ways to aid in the further access to the Internet. I speak of development of Broadband technologies in rural and other under served areas. And I speak of assisting poor persons in fully accessing Broadband Internet services such as has been done with telephone services in the Universal Lifeline Telephone Service (ULTS) program.

I wish to thank the Commission for its consideration of my thoughts as well as the hard work it, and its staff members, engage in for our country.

-End of Statement-

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