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RE: FCC Proceeding #16-106, Protecting the Privacy of Customers of Broadband and Other Telecommunications Services

Dear FCC Chairman Wheeler and Commissioners:

I support enactment of strong regulations protecting the privacy of consumers of broadband Internet access service (BIAS) providers. Internet providers have unrivaled access to consumer information, including names, addresses, and data about our Web searches and site visits, which can reveal our health conditions, political views, shopping interests, and much more. That is private information. I don't want a BIAS provider to share it with strangers without my permission.

When we sign up for broadband service, we pay for a fast, reliable Internet connection. We don't give a license to the broadband provider to snoop into our personal lives, or to share our information with marketing partners, data resellers and aggregators, and other strangers.

Before sharing our private information, the BIAS provider should ASK OUR PERMISSION FIRST, using an easy-to-read, voluntary, revocable, opt-in form that is not presented to the consumer when signing up for or accessing Internet service. Any opt-in form should spell out with whom, and for what purposes, sharing approval is requested. The opt-in form should explicitly preserve the right of consumers to have their day in court should a privacy dispute occur.

Privacy should be a standard requirement for all broadband Internet access. A consumer should not pay extra for Internet privacy, nor should a consumer receive any inferior services for utilizing privacy rights.

Privacy is a basic right, not a privilege for those who can afford to pay extra.

Thank you for considering my comments.