

Internet: free speech, commerce & On-line assembly

I am concerned -- that the internet must remain as free as possible. Wealth and special interest groups control or have disproportionate voice in all other public media. The internet now provides a needed level playing field for healthy public debate, education, economic/publication opportunity with modest capitalization for all intelligent innovators, etc.

We do not want episodes like Chinese Google where "Tennimen Square (sp?)" brings up pro-government censored text and images, instead of the famous tank image that appears everywhere else in the world. The strength and vitality of our country, our people requires open avenues of communication with maximum exchange and innovation for the challenges we face in these troubled times.

The kind of regulation needed is the narrowly defined kind that applies to other forums, carefully crafted over centuries to maximized free speech except where abused in a few, highly destructive ways.

Net Neutrality is essential to free speech, equal opportunity and economic innovation in America. Since the FCC removed this basic protection in 2005, the top executives of phone and cable companies have stated their intention to become the Internet's gatekeepers and to discriminate against Web sites that don't pay their added tolls.

This fundamental change would end the open Internet as we know it. It would damage my ability to connect with others, share information and participate in our 21st century democracy and economy. The FCC must ensure that broadband providers do not block, interfere with or discriminate against any lawful Internet traffic based on its ownership, source or destination.