

Online Democracy Endures

With the advent of new technology, US citizens find innovative ways of putting these technologies to best use. With the Internet, the concept of 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.

The role of the FCC is to protect the interests of citizens, not corporations. I ask you to ensure that online democracy endures by sustaining Net Neutrality. This is **not** a free market issue.