

Why I need a free and open internet!

I am opposed to the gatekeeper system for the internet. I want all the sites I want to visit to load quickly. I use the internet almost daily to search out information that isn't on "major" sites. I am often looking for topics that aren't mainstream and therefore sometimes end up on smaller sites. Providing a gatekeeper system would put control in someone else's hands -- big business. All media are not meant for the sole purpose of making a profit. There are plenty of sites that share information.

I have learned a great deal about childrearing and baby-carrying on sites that don't carry advertising. I share video and photos of my new baby with my distant family on my own personal website. I wouldn't want them to have to wait to watch a video of her laughing just because it's not a highly trafficked site.

The internet is a great place for smallness. Gatekeeping will just lead to more homogenization of something that thrives with diversity.

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.

I'm already paying for the broadband access. I shouldn't have to pay again to make sure I can access what I want rather than what the providers want me to see.

Sincerely,

Diane Worthington