

Dear FCC,

As computer professional with over 25 years of experience and a member of both the ACM (<http://acm.org>.) and IEEE, (<http://Computer.org>.) I understand the problems that not having net neutrality will have for the consumer.

The problems that consumers will face can be exemplified by how the US cellular phone system currently works. It is expensive, if not impossible to add capabilities to one's cellular service. For example, if one wants to use their cell phone as modem for their laptop, one has to pay extra for this service though the cell phone has the capability to browse the internet directly already so is already internet ready. The US is currently lagging years behind other parts of the world in cellular capabilities available to the consumer because the phone companies have a locks such as this on what data services a cellular customer can use. Not having net neutrality will introduce the same expensive tiered system of services for internet communications. We already pay for the bandwidth, and should not have limits placed on what is done with the bandwidth. The US consumer and the US economy will be hobbled as it is now with cellular services if net neutrality is not maintained for internet services.

I purchase internet service for a fee. I am told I am getting so much speed or bandwidth for this purchase. Not having a neutral net means that the speed AT&T or whoever my service provider at the time will be charging the websites I wish to visit a fee for them sending the services it offers at the speeds I paid for. Net neutrality guarantees this won't happen and that I as a consumer will not have my services slowed down on purpose by the service provider because they couldn't get some other party to pay them.

Currently, there is a system in place with the shared bandwidth agreements between providers and owners of the internet's network hubs that allows one network provider to raise funds for the maintenance and usage of their network by another. Of course this is a two way street and the providers feel threatened in that if they overcharge, the other provider will do the same for the traffic coming back through. When Google pays for its internet, they are paying their provider a fee for the amount of bandwidth they are using. When I use the internet, I am paying a fee to my provider for the bandwidth I am using. When I visit Google's site or use one of their services, we both are currently paying for the fees and services. Removing the idea of a neutral network would mean that we would be purposely limited and not getting the services we paid for by the people we are paying in order to have the internet service.

Not preserving net neutrality means the service provider to whom we pay for our service can legally not deliver the speeds and services they promised when advertising and attempting to gain us as a customer. Government has always attempted to protect the consumer from devious acts like bait and

switch or outright fraudulent and misleading advertising. This is the effect not preserving a neutral net will have when someone doesn't pay the fees for increased bandwidth and the consumer doesn't get the internet as their provider advertised. This goes against the history of the government and the basic protections from deceit and dubious business practices.

In addition, the internet as a technology is still evolving. Allowing service providers to tier service will prevent further innovations that in the very recent past have spawned major industries with the associated wealth and job building through new companies such as YouTube, EBay, the various Google services that didn't exist, but until just recently. No network neutrality will hobble the US economy, allowing countries with unrestricted network services to continue to evolve new services. The US citizenry will only be able to participate as a consumer, not having been able to build new businesses ourselves. We will become a second or third world internet economy if net neutrality is not preserved.

Please prevent Internet providers from tiering and limiting services to the consumer and do more to protect the consumer by forcing internet service providers to provide the bandwidth promised, which so far, they have not been able to do.

Sincerely,  
James Cripe