

Net Neutrality: Protected Right or Fading Dream?

First of all, I would like to thank you for taking the time out of your busy day to read my letter.

I only recently learned about the "Net Neutrality" debate. And I'll admit that I'm not a politically active person. I just turned 18, and I didn't even really pay attention to the last Presidential election, let alone any state or local elections, and especially issues facing our nation, even if they affect me directly.

When I first heard of Net Neutrality, I just figured that it was some over-dramatic non-profit organization trying to get attention. In short I ignored it. Suddenly, I started to hear about Net Neutrality all over the internet. I decided to find out more. When I learned about what was happening, I was appalled.

I asked myself, "what can I do about it? What good is one person's voice?" To be perfectly honest, I didn't think that anyone would care about what I thought. I thought that the companies fighting for the fall of Net Neutrality would just do what they were going to do, and I would have to just deal with their choices. That's when I found savetheinternet.com, which in turn is how I can write this letter to you.

You may be wondering exactly how this issue affects me. Well, as a musician, the internet is a great place to post my music, and try to get myself heard. As a person who doesn't watch television, I use the internet to get the news. I recently moved from Lambertville, Michigan (near Toledo, Ohio) to Phoenix, Arizona. Everyone I know, every single friend of mine, even most of my family, is now over 1500 miles away. I use the internet to keep in contact with them. I even used the internet to plan my trip. When I arrived in Phoenix, I took about two weeks off. I just graduated from high school, moved (and drove for three days in doing so), and basically changed my entire life. I was able to change my address online. I decided that I need a job, so I used a web site to post my resume. That was at about 11:30 AM. By 7:00 PM, a company found my resume, and contacted me about it. In one day, I already have an interview set up. This is how the internet affects me. It seems like a lot when it's spelled out in front of you, but if you just talk about it, it doesn't sound like a big deal.

The point that I'm trying to get at is this: The internet serves us more than we know. If you place restrictions on it, you're making life harder for every single person that uses the internet. I'm able to start my life in Phoenix because of the internet. I've even applied to a web hosting company. What happens to them if Net Neutrality falls? Not only will the fall of Net Neutrality make life harder for everyone, but it will put thousands of people out of jobs.

In short, I support Net Neutrality and everything that it stands for. I see no reason to let the big corporations control how I access the internet. I know that by myself, there's not much that I can do to save Net Neutrality. However, I do know that I can add my voice to the chorus of salvation for Net Neutrality. My voice won't change the minds of the big corporations, but OUR voice can. This is where I ask you to help not only me, but everyone who is for Net Neutrality. I ask you to add your

voice to our chorus. I ask that you help my voice be heard. As I have said before, my voice alone will do almost nothing. I ask that you use my voice, my letter, my words, to augment your voice when the time comes to defend Net Neutrality.

I feel that I can not express just how important this subject to me, but I feel that I have given you a good idea. But this is just how it affects me. One person. Just imagine how other people feel.

Once again, I would like to thank you for taking the time to read my letter. I hope that, if nothing else, this shows you how important this topic really is.

Sincerely,
William M. Kerekes