

## Net Neutrality Strengthens Our Country

Our ability to communicate freely without barriers strengthens our country. Being able to communicate freely over the Internet allows citizens to be informed and discuss and debate important issues, as well as enhancing our ability to learn and conduct business. Unfettered communication over the Internet strengthens our economy and opens more economic opportunity for more people.

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.