

Keep the Internet free for the kids.

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, knowledge, 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 pay \$60 a month for access to broadband Internet through Comcast. I teach classes with online content and I cannot even upload my course files without being kicked off of my connection and told I must "upgrade to a business connection" in order to upload a few measly files to my class. Enough is enough. I pay a premium for services from Comcast and AT&T and still deal with their "service restrictions" Many people across America aren't lucky enough to even have the opportunity to pay for premium service because they do not live in "viable markets". The internet is a powerful tool to provide education and ideas to children who may not have the opportunity to gain this knowledge elsewhere. In a country ranked so low in educational achievement, it is a shame that so many children do not have access to the millions of books and the world of information offered on the internet, because their parents may not be able to afford it.

Lack of network neutrality adds insult to injury. It would be akin to telling certain publishers that they have to pay for their books to be placed in a library, because libraries are now charging for shelf space. There is nothing to gain from gating internet services, except more profits from companies who's CEO's will make more than I ever will, with my greedy non-profit teacher job. I care about putting knowledge into the hands of America's youth, not putting money into the pockets of millionaires.