

It's costs more to be different?

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.

More importantly, it implies that anything new, innovative, or somehow different from what people have already forced as being covered by "basic service" would require more time, effort, and money to even have a chance at being used or developed. Needless to say, this will directly inhibit the creation of new tools and services, much like the internet, the web, other powerful technologies we now take for granted.

Why should the creative potential for good be limited by those with a vested, legally required, interest in PREVENTING it in order to save money for their shareholders? How to this smothering of research and development help anyone?

The ability to assemble peacefully (virtually or physically), the right to communicate with one another, the chance to make things better through experimentation and research... why would we allow corporate commercial interests to maim these things? Services providers don't make more money by supporting these. They make money by doing less and charging more.

Given actions by companies such as Comcast ALREADY limiting traffic they deem to unacceptable and cutting off services (in areas where they are the ONLY provider) using secret usage limits, can anyone really claim this problem can be left in the hands of those already abusing their position at the public's expense?

We need an open, usable internet, anything else is a false hope that will only hurt society.