



# Shelby County Board of Commissioners

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J. W. GIBSON, II  
*Commissioner*  
*District 2, Position 1*

October 15, 2009

Julius Genachowski, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

As Shelby County Commissioner, I have observed the FCC wrestle with today's complex communications issues, and I believe the Commission is on the verge of making a mistake.

The Commission's pending announcement on October 22nd, combined with your recent remarks, suggests that you are considering network neutrality regulation. Network neutrality will, quite simply, make it more difficult for companies to invest in wireless and broadband networks at a time when communities need all the investment they can get.

In addition to costing the construction and maintenance jobs that come with development of new infrastructure, network neutrality regulation slows deployment of broadband networks. In a county with a large number of rural consumers, it is troubling that the FCC would adopt policies that could potentially keep them from receiving reliable high-speed service.

I believe that net neutrality regulation would be a huge mistake. It will impede the innovation and competitiveness that reflects today's communications marketplace.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J.W. Gibson II".

J.W. Gibson II, Commissioner  
Shelby County Board of Commissioners

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