



Florida House of Representatives  
Representative Joe Gibbons  
District 105

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Education & Economic Development

**Committees:**

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As the FCC considers implementing net neutrality rules under the open Internet Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, it is imperative that the Commission consider the impact that such regulations could have for Americans. As a State Legislator representing Florida House District 105, I am concerned about the effects that net neutrality could have on network functionality, maintenance and expansion which would ultimately affect how Floridians use the Internet.

In recent years, Florida's policy makers have been enthusiastic about expanding the availability of technology in our state, especially making technology available in our schools. Both at work and in school, Floridians are using broadband technology to help enhance their quality of life.

At the Commission's September meeting, it was reported that four out of five parents say the Internet helps their children with schoolwork.

Net neutrality regulations could have a detrimental impact on private sector investment in deploying and maintaining broadband infrastructure. Currently, despite our weakened economy, providers are investing tens of billions of dollars and are creating new, American jobs. Our economy cannot afford to lose this level of investment, nor can those who lack broadband connections afford to wait any longer for access. In order to ensure that everyone benefits from broadband technology, there must be incentives in place that spur continued investment. Net neutrality regulations will only detract from this goal and widen the digital divide.

At this time, the FCC must work to promote policies that spur greater broadband deployment and must give broadband providers the authority to manage their networks to ensure that all users have a safe and high-quality experience. Additionally, providers must be able to protect users from spam and viruses that degrade network performance, as well as shield children from non-age appropriate content if their customers request it.



I thank the FCC for the chance to comment on such an important issue. All citizens in our great country and those in Florida should have access to the opportunities that a broadband connection can create.

Sincerely,

*Joseph Gibbons*

Florida House of Representatives  
District 105

Cc: Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Commissioner Michael J. Copps  
Commissioner Robert McDowell  
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn  
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker