

I rely on the Internet as a public platform for free speech, equal opportunity, economic growth and innovation. Without vital Net Neutrality protections, companies like Verizon and Comcast, which have a commercial incentive to limit the free-flowing Web, can decide whether I will have a voice online. These companies should not have the power to determine my fate on the Internet.

I've already seen what a world without net neutrality would look like - cable tv. Prices keep going up and up while the companies enjoy their monopolies over their own areas of turf; meanwhile the consumer gets little say in his choices and gouged with a ten percent rate increase every year. Without net neutrality, other countries that still have it will surpass the US when it comes to any number of applications. The idea of letting net neutrality slide away is as silly, short-sighted and self-destructive for the US as outlawing the use of telephones.

The FCC must have the power to protect consumer access to the most important communications medium of our time. The FCC must stand with me and keep the Internet in the hands of the people who use it every day. Please reclassify broadband as a "telecommunications service" and keep the Internet open and free of corporate gatekeepers.