

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 am a print journalist. My profession has been clubbed unconscious by deregulation of the FCC allowing corporate ownership of dailies enormously diminishing the diversity of editorial opinion. Hence, American journalism did not provide its role of Fourth Estate and the Gatekeepers when it would have told the truth about Iraq not being a nuclear threat and the impossibility of such a thing, resulting in our not overthrowing the Iraqi government to privatize the second largest oil reserve on the planet. FBI emails have proven they have been spying on innocent Americans, particularly anti-Iraq war protestors and environmentalists they deem "prone to violence." Net neutrality is crucial to the exchange of intellectual thought and frankly Scarlet, the government doesn't own the internet. Here's an example, the servers for my Century Link are run in Gulf Shores, Al., very Republican, so any email I obtain from the Democrats or any progressive group is automatically tagged junk an!

d sent accordingly. It doesn't matter how I adjust my settings or complain. They are Republicans intentionally diverting my email. None of this should surprise you. I think we should all take a deep, deep breath and stop being terrified of one another. We would like our journalism profession back but I don't know how you can privatize today's dailies. Thank you for listening. Respectfully submitted, Bob Hyer

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.