

The internet is the greatest innovation in communication since the printing press. I rely upon it to communicate with my friends, for my school work, and yes, even for entertainment. With an open internet, I am able to live my life the way I see fit, without a corporation telling me what to say, who to talk to, and most importantly, what to read, like, and buy.

The internet is the last true enclave of freedom of speech. In a world where the corporations' voices are louder than the voice of the individual both in politics and in business, this proposition would destroy the ability to express oneself freely, and we would be forced to pay most likely exorbitant amounts of money to have our voices heard on any issue, or even amongst our friends.

If not to preserve the first amendment in cyberspace, this proposition must be quashed to tell the corporations that they are not the government. They would silence the FCC, and by extension, government regulation, and extort the people they rely on for business out of even more money, while restricting what we can say, do, read, or see on the internet. That is not neutrality. It isn't even fair business. It is extortion, and most importantly it is unconstitutional.

For too long has the government allowed big business to run this country. Big business doesn't care about their customers, and they certainly don't care about freedom of expression. They care only about lining their own pockets. If you allow this proposition to come full circle, you have effectively damned the internet into a money-making scam. People everywhere rely upon the internet for their own businesses, for education, for communication, for travel, and yes, even for personal pleasure.

This bill will be the end of the internet as we know it. If you accept this proposition, you, as the FCC, will be powerless to stop everything outlined above from happening, and will be rendered powerless. In this day and age, we have seen what happens when the government allows corporations to police themselves. Remember AIG? Massey Energy? Haliburton? How about the Deepwater Horizon spill? If you do not step up and uphold your duties as a government agency, a catastrophe of these proportions can and likely will occur. Companies will be able to censor everything we say, and the government will not be able to do anything about it. The FCC will be stripped of its power to police the airwaves.

If not to protect your citizens, then reject this deal to prevent crime. If the companies control the internet, what is to stop them from price gouging, price fixing, forming trusts, and committing fraud? NOTHING. If you privatize policing the internet, all of this and more will be made that much easier for the companies to do.

This deal is a disaster waiting to happen. Please, for the sake of everyone who uses the internet, reject this bill, and restore the FCC to the position for which it was made.