

I rely on the Internet for information, living in a small rural community. I read articles from a wide range of sources (European, US, etc) to better stay current. I'm the author of a tool for journalists (Find It! Keep It!) which lets them catalogue news articles. I've been using the internet since the late 80s (at university) when it was mainly a tool for academic collaboration. As such I have seen it grow from very modest beginnings to become a key part of my life. Telecommunications companies have not helped develop the services that make up today's internet. It was Universities (Google was born at Stanford University), newspapers and startups that did. Telecommunications companies only provide the pipes. However it seems that they want to squeeze everybody who uses the internet for their own gain, regardless of their impact on the rest of the economy. You need to tell them that the time for free meals due to legal and financial innovations is over, and that they ! should earn an honest living by competing to provide the best possible service to their customers, rather than rewriting laws just so they can sit back and suck the lifeblood out of the US economy.

Broadband is clearly a "telecommunications service" and the rules to keep it open, free from corporate interference should be enforced. Otherwise, I believe preserving net neutrality is so vital that the FCC should seize the infrastructure by eminent domain. It would be hard for government to be less efficient than the current internet providers: the US is significantly behind other countries in terms of bandwidth available to users.