

Reclassfy Internet Service Providers As Common Carriers.

Net Neutrality is important to me for many reasons. But importantly, because I am a gay black man. The internet is the source I turn to first for news and information on topics such as: civil rights and gay equality, HIV/AIDS prevention, and news of importance from my local community. Since these important issues are not commercially monetizable, I fear that access to this information will be at risk if ISPs are allowed to give preferential treatment to paid traffic. With the demise of newspapers and decline of broadcast journalism, the net has become the modern equivalent of the "free press" and as such it must be protected from efforts to put the ability to access vital information up for sale to the highest bidder. Therefore, I strongly implore the commission to declare ISPs to be common carriers subject to regulation in the public's interest.