

To whom it may concern,

My name is Galen Schloming, and I am writing to express my strong opposition to the FCC's recent proposed changes to net neutrality.

The creation of a 'fast lane' in which companies would be allowed to charge for faster internet is a terrible idea. Relative to other industrialized nations, just about every major ISP in the US already charges their customers very high rates for comparatively poor service and are consistently voted amongst the worst companies in America by consumers due to their poor customer service. Allowing these very same companies to offer preferential treatment to those business willing to pay for faster data is short-sighted and indefensible. I am also highly skeptical of the proposed litmus test; that these transactions must be "commercially reasonable." I don't believe it to be sufficiently specific nor practically enforceable as a safeguard.

It would also seriously harm competition and innovation by raising the barrier to entry for new companies. New streaming video sites would become exceedingly difficult to start, for example, because they would not have the wherewithal to pay ISPs for faster speeds that established corporations enjoy.

Further, this would hurt consumers. We already don't have much choice as to which ISP we use. With fast lanes, we would be stuck with poor service if we did not use an ISP that companies opted to pay. So not only will new internet companies be hurt by the policy, new and small ISPs could also be severely impacted because no company will pay for faster speeds in just a few counties.

Really, allowing a 'fast lane' would benefit large internet service providers while hurting everybody else. It would not be representative of net neutrality or free market capitalism with healthy competition. This simply encourages pay-to-play.

As a consumer, I urge the FCC to classify ISPs as common carriers. But failing that, at least refrain from implementing this disastrous policy.

Thank you very much for your time,

Galen