RE: Proceeding 14-28
Protecting and Promoting the Open Internet

Chairman Wheeler and the Federal Communications Commission
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

May 07, 2014

Daily Kos exists as the nation's most vibrant, active online community because the open Internet exists. Because, like so many innovators over the past two decades, founder Markos Moulitsas could claim an online space, cultivate it, and watch it flourish. Every day, thousands of people interact on the site, tens of thousands take an action—signing an online petition or sending an email—and 6.3 million visitors come to the site for news and for community.

All that exists because Daily Kos doesn't have to pay a premium to share our message, because it's never had to because of Net Neutrality. Daily Kos has never had to worry that, because we often take unpopular and controversial stands, our content could be blocked or demoted by Internet Service Providers. That's because of Net Neutrality.

This proposed rule to allow ISPs to privilege content based on ability to pay would be the beginning of the end of Net Neutrality. It would choke off the entrepreneurial spirit, the innovation that has revolutionized life in the Internet age. Under these rules, telecommunications giants like AT&T, Comcast and Verizon would be able to decide if Daily Kos would be a winner or a loser.

A free and open Internet, in which all content is the driver of free speech, innovation, education, economic growth, and creativity. More and more in the past two decades, it's become the driver of our democracy. Don't let that grind to a halt. Reject Chairman Wheeler's proposed rule and create a rule that truly protects Net Neutrality. These rules need to be built on solid legal authority. And, the surest way to protect net neutrality is to write those rules using Title II of the Telecommunications Act to reclassify broadband as a telecommunications service.

Sincerely,
Daily Kos