

Hello FCC,

This message is to publicly voice an opinion regarding both the FCC rulings on Net Neutrality, and on the Comcast/Time Warner merger. One person's opinion may not amount to much in the grand scheme of things, but I am hoping that I am not the only individual messaging you regarding these two topics.

For FCC ruling on Net Neutrality: Currently, rulings for Internet Service Providers (ISPs) are being treated as information services, despite previous ruling treating them as Common Carriers. Due to this, ISPs have been able to circumvent rulings supporting Net Neutrality, and ultimately have lead to ISPs being able to restrict content, communication, and information within their services. This has provided them the power to charge individuals and companies extra in order to provide their services, and thus allowed for censorship of communication and information across the internet, guided by the pocketbooks of those that would have their content and communications with customers cut. In order to keep the American people as a whole protected from censorship, both of expression and of what information and content they can access, by ISPs like Comcast, this must be stopped. The FCC has more power to keep them in control if they are classified as Common Carriers and not just information carriers (and since ISPs could also restrict communication between individuals, this should be the case anyway). I am certain that a politician such as yourself may have other possible solutions, but in the end, as long as ISPs are not allowed to restrict the traffic across their cables as they choose, then I feel the public's best interests will be protected.

For the Time Warner/Comcast Merger: This one is much shorter. We know that monopolies are bad for a capitalist society like ours, but unfortunately ISPs have gradually become just that: a monopoly. I know I am just one example, but I know currently there is only one broadband company in my area: Comcast. Today, internet access has become on par with major utilities such as electricity and water. Jobs are applied for online, News is accessed on web pages, and even our congressional representative (you) lists the primary method of contact to be via email. Unfortunately, if I am to get internet access in my home, Comcast is my only feasible option, and I know I'm not alone. They are already a monopoly in my area, and allowing them to merge with another company that is a monopoly in their own area only provides them a greater area of influence. This cannot be allowed to stand. Without serious direct competition, there will be nothing stopping Comcast from charging whatever they want to provide services that lag behind the rest of the world, and no incentive for innovation or improvement. We are already behind: The United States Citizens cannot afford to be pushed back further.

I hope that on both of these concerns, you agree with me. If not, I hope that maybe my voice, paired with all those that do agree with me, can sway your opinion.

Thank you for your time, and I wish you the best.

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