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The Internet serves near identical purposes as other Common Carrier services; in many cases, the ISP companies also operate some of those other services, some services that can be replicated in function over the internet. If ISP's aren't common carriers, they will eventually move those services to the unregulated internet at the cost of customers. The smoke ISP's blow about decreased service if classified as Common Carriers is akin to blackmail; if we the customers are going to suffer either way, it best be in a way that doesn't profit off of it.