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Four points: First, nearly the entire cost of developing the Internet came from the pockets of taxpayers; the added cost of rolling out "privately-owned" infrastructure has been passed on to consumers and taxpayers, who pay multiples of the actual costs.

Second, provision of Internet service in most parts of the country is an effective monopoly, or - at best - an oligopoly that has proven itself rapacious, rent-seeking and in dire need of regulation.

Third, Internet service is now an essential form of telecommunication and needs to be regulated as such.

And fourth, much of the opposition from lawmakers has been compensated by the industry on something very close to a fee-for-service basis.

I encourage those members of the FCC possessed of both a conscience and a spine to employ both.