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I write hoping this goes through, as I'm currently dealing with Cox internet: it has this annoying tendency to disconnect at random. We've long since established it's not an internal issue but something in their network, but they can't seem to fix it. In any other area of human activity (except the water, power, and gas companies...notice the trend there) I'd switch given the SLOW speeds and constant problems. But I can't. You see, Cox is the local monopoly in a business with VERY high barriers to entry, meaning they have little incentive to compete for business. For those of you who forgot Econ 101, this means the consumer has no choice. I'm stuck with their garbage. Sure, they might upgrade in a year or two - but I'll have to pay more for it; and Americans already pay the highest prices for broadband internet. And you want to give THEM the freedom to decide whose website loads faster?

Your new rules only massively increase the power these largely unregulated companies possess. Worse than denying consumer choice of online alternatives to the cable company, it stifles the ability for companies to compete with the established behemoths of the internet. Google, for example, can pay so that Youtube loads nice and quick. What about that company that comes up with a better version of Youtube, but is hobbled by load times that they cannot pay to speed up? Will your next round of rule-making give companies the ability to block sites and services they dislike? I can see Netflix going to court over a move like that, but what about the alternative that cannot afford to do so?

Net neutrality is not the panacea that will fix the internet. The internet will always have some vestige of chaos; it is the collective genius and insanity of the human race. Let it be the messy, unruly, occasionally despicable but more often brilliant means of 21st Century communication that we have come to know and, let's face it, depend upon. The best days of the internet - and humanity - can be ahead of us, but not if a very narrow few are able to use their established money and influence to control it.

Thank you for your time.