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The imminent (potential) loss of the regulations protecting Net Neutrality is extremely disheartening. The entire basis on what has made the internet such an amazing tool; free flow of ideas, open marketplace, bastion of truly free speech, all stem from one basic principle. That all data be treated equally.

It benefits no one for certain parties to be able to restrict the internet. And restriction is what we are talking about, there is no "Fast button" an ISP can push to arbitrarily increase the speed of an individual stream. The only thing they can do is to regulate (limit) the flow of all the streams.

Now I understand that to some extent this is necessary, as throttling of connections maintains server stability. However, as of now, this is done as a blanket. Everyone sacrifices a modicum of maximum speed to keep the network stable.

Disturbingly, we are now at a point where the FCC will consider allowing the ISPs to choose who and more horrifyingly, how much to throttle.

Just imagine the ramifications! They could just slow down access on any site to the point where it became unusable. This would allow an ISP to censor anything they wanted. Political views they don't agree with? Censored!  
Religious websites contrary to their own? Censored!  
Content Negative to their image? Censored!

In a sense, this could be the first step toward a public filter... Did I miss the decision to become the United States of China?

All this is before we assess the issues public cost. Whom do you think will shoulder the burden when big corporations do pay to get faster access? The customer. Who will pay to get government sites into the fast lane? Will that even be paid for?

The bottom line is that this vote is truly asinine. No one, absolutely NO one outside the ISPs themselves, can possibly benefit from this. There should be no debate in your minds, keep the internet free and open.

Thank you,  
-Dan