

I am writing to express my concern for this issue. I see that this gives companies a lot more power that they don't need. They are already in most cases monopolies and now with this they are becoming even more powerful. They are going to start charging (and in Netflix's case already have) to have preferred bandwidth this has and will result in a rate hike for customers and doesn't help the consumer in any way shape or form. We all live a digital life these days and if every company like Netflix had to raise rates just to do business the consumer would be badly hurt. Most families consider this a luxury and when luxuries become too expensive to maintain they cut them out. It's not like minimum wage is going up to match the ever increasing cost of living anyway. Now the rich will get richer and the middle class and poor will get screwed again. In most markets customers can't even switch providers because there might only be one or two providers to choose from in terms of competition (some places have only one choice). If one of these companies becomes a burden cutting them out becomes an impossibility because that means they won't have service at all. Who are they competing with to have to increase the consumer cost and not drastically improve service? That isn't how businesses are supposed to conduct business. All information on the internet should be treated equally and going down this road means this is actually a paid form of discrimination. I shouldn't have to worry that the data I sent will be treated like a second class citizen in favor of someone who can pay for preferential treatment. Small companies will never be able to challenge larger companies because they could never match the cash coming out of their pockets. The Internet is supposed to be the great equalizer and this fact needs to be protected. It will hurt the next Netflix because the current Netflix can pay to make their service better than the potential startup. Having an open internet in this day and age is one of the last ways to achieve the American dream for many people. Doing this is a victory for Goliath not all the David's in the world who actually make Goliath what he is today. I think these companies have forgotten this.