

Dear Chairman Tom Wheeler, Commissioner Ajit Pai, Commissioner Mignon Clyburn, Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel, and Commissioner Micheal O'Rielly,

I urge you to consider reclassifying the Internet under Title 2 as a public utility. I believe that the Internet should be open and equally available to everyone, and that no content, be it public, federal, or private, should receive preferential treatment in the form of increased bandwidth allotment. All content deserves equal access and any form of content discrimination in the form of bandwidth throttling or outright blockage is completely unacceptable. I believe a two-tiered Internet, where well-funded entities would be capable of providing consumers with better access to content than those lacking capital, such as start-ups, will be detrimental to innovation. Further, such a two-tiered system will have the potential to cripple the Internet as a medium of free speech and activism.

While I imagine an ideal free market for Internet subscription services would obsolete the need for such reclassification, the market is sadly far from ideal. Given that the average regional market has three or fewer options for Internet subscription, consumers are not afforded the benefits that accompany a market rich with diversity and competition. Further, the merger of entities such as Comcast and Time Warner will only lead to fewer options for consumers.

As a concerned citizen of the U.S., and the Internet, I urge you to not leave this medium for innovation and development open to exploitation by select corporate interests.

Sincerely,
Ezra Taylor