

To: FCC

Comment in regards to FCC Proceeding Number 14-28

From:

Scott Hubert

100 N Pacific Hwy APT 117

Talent, OR 97540

In allowing the internet service providers to control the speed of internet traffic and set costs to decrease restrictions on bandwidth usage, the FCC is going to be make a very large mistake that will damage the reputation of the government as well as continue to decrease happiness with internet service providers.

The internet has, for the past many years, been used by the end users with the thought that all information is treated equally. Anybody can create a website that will be able to show up on a Google search and accessed quickly from any service provider. While some providers have restricted access to websites for security (spamming) reasons, this has not significantly restricted access to nearly all the internet has to offer.

Providing service providers (Verizon, AT&T, Charter, etc., etc.) with the ability to restrict internet traffic speed to specific website is extremely likely develop into a huge problem. If we provide these large companies the opportunity to make more money by restricting traffic speed to websites (such as Netflix) without the owner of that website paying a fee for their large internet traffic, these companies will do so. The company is there to make money and will use any available means to do so.

This will begin to affect everyday people if allowed. Not immediately, but very likely over a short period of time. I have my own websites like many people. My primary website is an outlet for people to view my photos that I take throughout my travels and attempt to sell them. While I don't make money doing this, I enjoy it. If the internet is allowed to be restricted, access to my content could be controlled by the internet service providers unless I pay a fee. As a lower class American, I would not have the funds to pay for these fees, even if they are very small. But the fees to increase the flow of traffic to a website will likely be designed for big companies (such as Netflix) and will be priced accordingly. It is unlikely that the average American will be able to afford any of the fees and the internet will start becoming restricted.

When this happens, content providers (like Netflix) who are being charged these fees to have no restrictions on their traffic speed, will pass these costs down to the users who want their content. The cost for getting content will increase and it will, because of the general dependence of the population on the internet and its services, increase public unhappiness. This will reflect back to the internet service providers and to the FCC/Government. The internet service providers aren't primarily concerned with customer satisfaction, as shown by polls where Time Warner Cable and Comcast (two of the largest internet service providers in the country) are found to be the most disliked companies in the country. The public discontent will begin to transfer straight to the government.

We can stop this now by not allowing large companies to control what we access on the internet and how fast we access it. The government and the FCC should help the public by setting rules that keep the internet open and accessible to everybody at the same speed, rather than allowing companies to set the speed of the internet.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Hubert", written in a cursive style.

Scott Hubert