

To Whom It May Concern:

As a current undergraduate student and research assistant at Grand Valley State University, my job revolves around producing knowledge and information, with the ultimate goal of improving peoples' lives. And that tends to be the shared global objective of academic research, regardless of the discipline, regardless of any shorter-term goals, regardless of the information being produced. With that in mind, I support net neutrality because the Internet is a source of an immense amount of free knowledge and information, and the Internet has already demonstrated enormous educational, political, and entertainment potential. The Internet has played a major role in fighting for the civil rights of entire communities, it has streamlined the public's awareness of how government policy impacts them, and it has allowed more flexibility for small and large businesses alike, to name only a few examples. If net neutrality is sacrificed, this could potentially make extremely valuable information difficult to access. In the context of the examples I mentioned, sacrificing net neutrality could be to the detriment of thousands of businesses and millions of individuals who are currently fighting for basic human rights. For these reasons – and a plethora of other reasons besides – I implore the FCC to keep the Internet neutral. This country prides itself in having the liberties and freedoms a lot of other nations do not have, and access to information is one of them. So as an individual extremely invested in improving peoples' lives through providing them with information, I ask: please keep the Internet neutral. Thank you.