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As a systems administrator; it is highly disturbing that we would allow our infrastructure to be controlled by last mile ISPs. Those last mile ISPs are being paid to provide connections to other larger networks and to maintain that infrastructure, nothing more. There is a time and place for traffic shaping and QoS but what many of these ISPs are proposing, particularly with the whole Netflix business, has nothing to do with protecting the network from malicious users who are flooding the network with traffic at the expense of everyone else on the subnet. Instead they are trying to impose an unreasonable amount of control over the content available unless they get paid a few times over, in another word: extortion. And I do believe here in the United States, extortion is considered a crime.

Now normally in a situation like this, in a free market, I'd be able to voice my disapproval by simply taking my business somewhere else and supporting a company I feel is closer in line with my own views. But we have allowed last mile ISPs to establish regional monopolies - I can not choose another ISP that promises to provide equal access to the Internet because that would mean moving out of State. In the 21st century, having a connection to the Internet is no longer a luxury; it has become such a pervasive part of our society and economy that not having an Internet connection is simply unthinkable and would ultimately negatively impact one's ability to conduct themselves within society. So simply not having an Internet connection is not an option either for those of us who wish to participate in society at large.