

In regards to FCC's new Internet Proposal:

As a software engineer for a very small startup in the Internet video industry, and who plans to continue working for startups in the future, net neutrality is critical and these new regulations will severely hurt the industry. It is likely that it will force lots of video/music, and other higher bandwidth startup companies to really only begin in countries that have net neutrality such as in Europe where they are seeking to extend net neutrality. It will be impossible, at a funding scale, and it already is a huge challenge with funding, to compete with bigger existing companies. There will be nobody here in the USA who will be able to compete. As an engineer who wishes to work for startups, I may be forced in trying to get a work VISA to work overseas, as the startup industry will probably shift away from Silicon Valley and move overseas, as it will not be able to flourish here. We do not want to be ruining much of the economy of California and the Bay Area, but these rules will do that. Engineers will be forced to leave the country rather than us trying to import more engineers in.

Having extremeley fast loading pages and video is extremeley important for any page or any site regardless of high bandwidth needs. If a site does not load in two seconds, and more than half will not even try loading a site that takes longer than 3 seconds (<http://blog.kissmetrics.com/loading-time/>). The time expectation for a site to load or a video to load will only decrease on any device. We need to be fair to smaller startups to keep innovation strong in the United States. Otherwise, we will destroy our economy even further. I fear for what I want to do in the USA because of these rules, and for many people like me. I do not see any other outcome, but a reduction in startups, and a reduction in a startups ability to compete with established players online like Facebook/Netflix/Google/Amazon.

In short, the FCC really needs to man up and call the cable companies common carriers because they are. I know you feel this would really hurt the current ISP's, but they are already basically living with it and they are surviving. It is also allowing the startup industry to flourish. Without net neutrality, the startup industry will no longer flourish as other bigger companies will be able to pay for faster access to consumers, which will prevent other startups from competing on page load times. People will only start to seek sites which are already on the fast lane, as they hate waiting fractions of a second more for pages to load. The startup industry will flounder here in the USA, and I see it flourishing elsewhere where they are protected, and slowly engineers will be leaving the US.

Thanks for reading this, and hopefully you will decide to keep net neutrality and allow me to keep my job and doing what I do.

Thank you,  
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