

Dear FCC,

My name is Eric Putz and I live in Santa Monica, CA.

Net neutrality, the principle that Internet service providers (ISPs) treat all data that travels over their networks equally, is important to me because without it ISPs could have too much power to determine my Internet experience by providing better access to some services but not others.

A pay-to-play Internet worries me because ISPs could act as the gatekeepers to their subscribers.

The internet as we know it today is the last remaining true democracy. People from all around the world can freely express their beliefs, share information, lessen the divide between rich and poor, topple dictators, allow for great innovations, and generally just creates a larger but closer world. By allowing ISPs to essentially control the internet should never be allowed or tolerated. And allowing ISPs to create paid fast lanes is not a better alternative. It stifles innovation, creates a larger divide between rich and poor, can eliminate the free transfer of information, could force access to corporate agendas not our own, and segregates the United States of America from the rest of the world.

The easiest solution I see is to break up the monopolies the ISPs have on Americans. When you live in a city where you have only one choice for a connection to the internet, that is monopoly. Satellite and DSL do not count as competition, as they pale in comparison to true broadband connections.

By breaking up the monopolies, the FCC takes over the cable infrastructure already laid down and paid for by the ISPs, essentially allowing for greater competition. It's amazing how competition helps innovation, brings down costs, and allows for greater connectivity to citizens like myself.

Years ago the FCC broke up the telephone industry. I'm not sure how you allowed the same thing to occur years later, but I hope you can fix things before they get out of control and we lose the last true democratic piece to the world we live in today.

Sincerely,

Eric Putz