



August 4, 2014

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Ex Parte Meeting in GN Docket No. 14-28 Protecting and Promoting the Open Internet and GN Docket No. 10-227 Framework for Broadband Internet Service

Ms. Dortch:

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206, Common Cause (CC) submits this letter summarizing a meeting on August 4, 2014 with Rebekah Goodheart, Legal Advisor; Sharon Lin, Law Clerk; and Laura Arcadipane, Law Clerk. Representing Common Cause were Todd O'Boyle, Program Director; Allison Venuti, Legal Fellow; Chelsea Carr, Legal Fellow; and Michelle Forelle, Media and Democracy PhD Fellow. At the meeting, Common Cause highlighted specific areas of its July 15, 2014 comments on the above captioned proceedings regarding the Open Internet.

Specifically, Mr. O'Boyle and Ms. Venuti highlighted CC's concern that any paid prioritization scheme would hinder innovation in e-government, online voter registration, and online civic engagement. Specifically, non-prioritized web services suffer from decreased traffic and utilization. As a result local governments and non-profits would have to resign themselves to curtailed traffic or else pay access charges to maintain priority. In the case of local government entities, any access charges would ultimately be borne by local taxpayers. Nonprofit and diverse voices may find themselves without access to the online marketplace of ideas, thus harming the diversity of viewpoints voters have access to.

In contrast, Title II reclassification offers voters and consumers safeguards that ensure universal service and access to promising civic innovations such as the ones highlighted above.

Respectfully,

Chelsea Carr
Common Cause

Cc: Rebekah Goodheart