

Dear FCC,

My name is Leah Hagan and I live in Seattle, WA.

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 new, innovative services that can't afford expensive fees for better service will be less likely to succeed.

The Internet is important to me because, as an aspiring writer, artist, and as someone who lives on the edge of poverty, I need to know that there will not be barriers to entry for the new ideas, stories, and art that I may one day bring to the world. If ISP subscribers have an easier time loading websites of existing companies than my new blog or craft site, there's no way that I will be able to be seen or succeed. Additionally, the Internet is a gateway for those in poverty to help lift themselves and their families up out of it: by finding new tools, services, jobs, opportunities that, thanks to net neutrality, can be found by anyone, regardless of how much they pay to access it. By taking away net neutrality, the FCC will only contribute to the vicious circle of classism that fuels poverty.

Thank you for your time and your consideration.

Sincerely,

Leah Hagan