



Nevada Legislature

January 24, 2018

The Honorable Dean Heller
United States Senate
324 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Heller:

We are writing to you today to urge you to join the bipartisan coalition that has formed in the United States Senate to pass a Congressional Review Act (CRA) resolution of disapproval that would overturn the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) decision to repeal net neutrality. You are in a unique and powerful position to be a decisive 51st vote in favor of this resolution.

As you know, in December 2017, the FCC voted to repeal net neutrality and allow Internet service providers (ISPs) to create differential pricing and speeds to websites and apps as they saw fit. This decision to allow ISPs to charge more for their broadband and slow down speeds for any website or app of their choosing threatens the principles of an open and free Internet. Giving ISPs this unfettered power to crush competitors and small business startups will destroy the entrepreneurial spirit that has defined America's 21st century economy, which has led to revolutionary new technologies and fueled innovative companies like Netflix and Facebook. Worse, it allows the potential for ISPs to increase rates or decrease access for those who need it most such as schools, first responders, hospitals, and rural communities.

It is telling that the main thrust of support for the FCC's decision comes almost exclusively from those entities which will benefit from this enormous power. But the idea espoused by those in favor of repealing net neutrality—that a corporation unlocked from regulations would create a system that looks out for consumers instead of their own bottom lines—strains credulity.

The fact remains there is no actual public policy problem that the repeal of net neutrality has identified and would solve, but the absence of net neutrality shows the plethora of problems that a lack of protections can create. For example, in 2012, a telecommunications company decided to block FaceTime on iPhones, a service many use as the only way to communicate with their children and loved ones, unless consumers paid additional fees. They only reversed their decision when the FCC became involved and the eventual net neutrality rule was put in

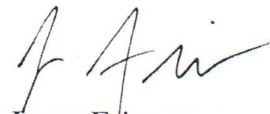
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place. Furthermore, the lack of robust net neutrality protections in Europe has even allowed ISPs to chop up the Internet into different service packages that limit access for consumers.

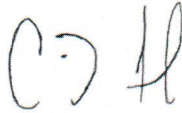
Allowing ISPs to take advantage of consumers and filter content while eliminating competitors' access to the Internet is as unwise as it is unpopular. That is why Governor Brian Sandoval and thousands of Nevadans rose up in opposition. While the FCC turned a deaf ear to those voices, we urge you not to do the same.

As Nevada's senior U.S. Senator, we urge you to fight the FCC's misguided decision by joining the bipartisan coalition seeking to preserve net neutrality.

With Appreciation,



Jason Frierson
Speaker of the Nevada Assembly



Aaron D. Ford
Majority Leader of the Nevada Senate