Open Internet Transparency Rule

The FCC is focused on ensuring that every American has access to robust high-speed Internet service – better known as broadband – to harness the benefits of broadband-enabled technology and improve lives. That access includes the right to accurate information so consumers can choose, monitor and receive the broadband Internet services they have been promised.

The FCC’s Open Internet Transparency Rule empowers consumers to make informed choices about broadband services. The Rule requires that what providers tell you about their broadband service is sufficient for you to make informed choices – including choices about speed and price. The Rule also requires that providers’ information about their broadband service must be accurate and truthful.

The rule covers disclosures about “network management practices, performance, and commercial terms of service.” The rule applies to service descriptions, including, for example, expected and actual broadband speed and latency. The rule also applies to pricing, including monthly prices, usage-based fees, and any other additional fees that consumers may be charged. Additionally, it covers providers’ network management practices, such as congestion management practices and the types of traffic subject to those practices.

The FCC monitors how well providers disclose the broadband speed they give consumers, and at what price, and is concerned about providers who make false, misleading, or deceptive statements to consumers about the services they provide.

For a report on service providers’ broadband performance, see the FCC’s Measuring Broadband America report: www.fcc.gov/measuring-broadband-america.

Test your mobile broadband speed

The FCC encourages you to test your broadband speeds using any number of free, online tests, and notify the FCC if your service doesn’t measure up to your provider’s advertised speed.

To test mobile broadband performance on iPhone and Android devices, use the FCC’s Mobile Broadband Speed Test App. Learn more: www.fcc.gov/measuring-broadband-america/mobile.

Notify the FCC about open Internet transparency issues

Providers that violate the transparency rule harm consumers and may be subject to enforcement action, which potentially includes monetary penalties prescribed under the Communications Act. Please notify the FCC about your concerns of possible violations of the Open Internet Transparency Rule.

Filing a complaint

You have multiple options for filing a complaint with the FCC:

- File a complaint online at https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov
- By phone: 1-888-CALL-FCC (1-888-225-5322); TTY: 1-888-TELL-FCC (1-888-835-5322); ASL: 1-844-432-2275
• By mail (please include your name, address, contact information and as much detail about your complaint as possible):

Federal Communications Commission
Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau
Consumer Inquiries and Complaints Division
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Accessible formats

To request this article in an accessible format - braille, large print, Word or text document or audio - write or call us at the address or phone number at the bottom of the page, or send an email to fcc504@fcc.gov.

Last Reviewed: 1/17/17
Reconfirming Comcast's Commitment to an Open Internet and Net Neutrality

By David L. Cohen, Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer

As the FCC prepares to vote on new Open Internet rules that will open the door for increased investment and digital innovation, there is a lot of misinformation that this is the "end of the world as we know it" for the Internet. It's important to take a moment, step back, and make clear what is happening here – and what is not happening – and to alleviate any concerns and address how consumers and the Internet will remain fully protected.

This is not the end of net neutrality. Despite repeated distortions and biased information, as well as misguided, inaccurate attacks from detractors, our Internet service is not going to change. Comcast customers will continue to enjoy all of the benefits of an open Internet today, tomorrow, and in the future. Period.

Consumers will remain fully protected. We have repeatedly stated, and reiterate today, that we do not and will not block, throttle, or discriminate against lawful content. These fundamental tenets of net neutrality are also key components of our core network and business practices – they govern how we run our Internet business.

Will Comcast broadband customers still be able to visit any lawful site they want to? Yes.

Will Comcast block or throttle access to Internet sites? No.

Is Comcast creating Internet fast lanes? No, we’ve said consistently we’ve not entered into paid prioritization agreements and have no plans to do so.

Will Comcast still clearly post policies on network management? Absolutely, you can find them here.

Light touch regulation allows for more competition in the marketplace and increased investment and innovation. There’s no question that an open Internet is important. There is also no doubt that investment is essential to fostering technological growth. Since its creation, the Internet has opened the door for tremendous digital advances and innovations. It has changed how we communicate and how we interact on a day to day basis. The politically guided and motivated decision by the Wheeler FCC in 2015 to revert to Title II regulation slowed...
the pace of advancement and limited choices in the marketplace. For example, it was that misguided thinking that stunted the rollout of Comcast’s Stream TV, an in-home, IP-based cable service, which was stalled from a broad consumer rollout because of an unnecessary protracted FCC investigation.

The FCC’s order means what its title promises: restoring Internet freedom. Consumers deserve choice and a thriving, innovative competitive marketplace under light touch regulation. The contemplated ruling removes the overhang created by Title II and rightfully reclassifies broadband Internet access as an interstate information service. Additionally, the order returns authority to the FTC to regulate data privacy and security for the entire Internet ecosystem under a uniform federal technology-neutral framework. It also requires all Internet providers to disclose their net neutrality practices, and will hold ISPs accountable to these practices. The inter-agency agreement announced yesterday between the FCC and the FTC should put to rest the fear that there is any confusion about the relative enforcement jurisdictions of the two agencies in the net neutrality context.

Protecting the Internet is critical for the future. We should all agree that the Internet deserves a bright future, regardless of the political party in power. This is not a time for political grandstanding or heated, false rhetoric. Inaccurate cries of Armageddon have done nothing but stoke a partisan political fire that distracts from actually allowing policymakers to come together to develop sensible, transparent, and durable Open Internet regulations that protect the consumer, encourage investment, and strengthen the American economy. With the expected FCC action tomorrow, it’s time to set aside partisan threats of litigation or legislation. The best interests of consumers, Internet companies, and ISPs are now best served by bipartisan discussions and problem solving. You’ll hear more from me on this subject tomorrow.

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It’s Time for Congress to Act and Permanently Preserve the Open Internet

By David L. Cohen, Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer

Today's vote <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-takes-action-restore-internet-freedom> by the FCC to restore Internet freedom and reverse the burdensome threat of Title II regulation is a positive step toward ensuring that the Internet is governed via sensible, transparent, light-touch regulatory policies and procedures. Despite some of the continued hand wringing, the vote does not represent the end of the Internet.

As I wrote yesterday <http://corporate.comcast.com/comcast-voices/fcc-to-vote-to-restore-internet-freedom-and-innovation>, reiterating a consistent public commitment from Comcast, we will not block, throttle, or discriminate against lawful content on the Internet; we will be fully transparent with respect to our practices; and we have not entered into any paid prioritization arrangements, and we have no plans to do so. Under the FCC's order, these commitments are now legally enforceable <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fccftc-coordinate-online-consumer-protection-efforts> by the Federal Trade Commission – so they aren’t "voluntary" commitments, they aren’t aspirational, and they aren’t hollow. They are binding commitments that we expect to be enforced by regulatory authorities.

Today's FCC action should represent an inflection point in a decade plus debate over net neutrality. We are at a unique moment in time – where the ISP community, edge providers, and consumer groups have reached a general consensus as to the scope of appropriate net neutrality protections (no blocking, no throttling, prohibiting discriminatory treatment of lawful content, and transparency for consumers). That doesn't mean all the wording has been agreed to by all parties, but there is a broad directional agreement.

It's now time for all of us to take advantage of this moment in time and end the cycle of regulatory ping pong we've been trapped in for over a decade and put this issue to rest once and for all. And there's a simple way to do this -- we really must have bipartisan congressional legislation to permanently preserve and solidify net neutrality protections for consumers and to provide ongoing certainty to ISPs and edge providers alike.

The Internet is at the core of America’s digital innovation and technological advancement. It is too valuable to be trapped in the middle of a never ending game of politics and regulatory arbitrage depending on the party in power. We should stop the litigation and legislative threats by the party not in control of the FCC. We need bipartisan congressional legislation to protect the Internet and
consumers. Now is the time for both sides of the aisle to come to the table, have a civil discussion, and produce a legislative product that enshrines durable and enforceable net neutrality rules.

Our call for legislative action isn’t new. Since at least 2010, Comcast has called for legislation to cement and protect an open Internet. Here are just a few examples:

**Comcast Blog Posts**

**December 1, 2010**<https://corporate.comcast.com/comcast-voices/fcc-proposes-rules-to-preserve-an-open-internet>: "For many months, we have been working very hard with Chairman Genachowski’s office, the Congress, and a broad array of stakeholders to try to find a fair and appropriate balance that would enable the FCC to codify a light regulatory approach that would protect the openness of the Internet but that would also protect the continued investment and innovation that has made the Internet the vibrant and dynamic place that it is today."

**February 26, 2015**<http://corporate.comcast.com/comcast-voices/fcc-votes-on-new-open-internet-rules>: "After today, the only ‘certainty’ in the Open Internet space is that we all face inevitable litigation and years of regulatory uncertainty challenging an Order that puts in place rules that most of us agree with. We believe that the best way to avoid this would be for Congress to act. We are confident this can be done in a bi-partisan manner with a consensus approach that accomplishes the common goals of stakeholders on all sides of the open Internet debate without the unnecessary focus on legal jurisdiction and the unnecessary regulatory overhang from 80 year-old language and provisions that were never intended to be applied to the Internet."

**April 26, 2017**<http://corporate.comcast.com/comcast-voices/comcast-supports-net-neutrality-and-reversal-of-title-ii-classification-title-ii-is-not-net-neutrality>: "In our view, there is no better way to put in place an enduring set of enforceable Open Internet protections than for Congress to act. As telecommunication policy leaders in both the House and the Senate said today, ‘it’s now time for Republicans and Democrats, internet service providers, edge providers and the Internet community as a whole to come together and work toward a legislative solution, <https://energycommerce.house.gov/news-center/press-releases/bicameral-leaders-comment-pai-s-internet-regulations-announcement>’ – we wholeheartedly agree. Bipartisan legislation, as was envisioned back in 2010 by then Congressman Henry Waxman and Cliff Stearns, would solve both the authority issue and end the gamesmanship on the substance of net neutrality rules."

**August 30, 2017**<http://corporate.comcast.com/comcast-voices/comcast-files-fcc-reply-comments-to-protect-an-open-internet>: "While the record strongly supports that the FCC can and should classify broadband as an information service and preserve incentives for innovation, investment, and an open Internet, there is also significant and growing consensus that bipartisan legislation can and should provide a permanent resolution to the unhelpful game of regulatory ping pong and the endless Title II loop that have plagued all stakeholders since at least 2010... We stand ready to work with policymakers, legislators, and stakeholders to end this regulatory back-and-forth and craft an effective and enduring solution for consumers and the U.S. economy. Ping pong should be for players, not policy."

Many others agree with this approach. Congressional leaders, Democrats and Republicans alike, recognize that legislation is the right solution – and have similarly called for congressional action:
Senator John Thune said this week <https://www.commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/speeches?ID=319AEF96-A71E-41A6-B3EF-7F6F6436FF94> : "As I have stated repeatedly, and I will say again today, Congressional action is the only way to solve the endless back and forth on net neutrality rules that we've seen over the past several years...True supporters of an open Internet should be demanding such legislative protections today—not posturing while waiting for years during legal proceedings or waiting for the political winds to turn."

Sen. Thune also noted bipartisan support for this approach "We're in good discussions with Senator [Brian] Schatz...We're hoping there will be other Democrats that will join him and come to the table in an effort to try and codify some open internet principles, the kind of consumer protections that people want but in a way that puts some sort of guardrails against runaway government regulation."

And today, Sen. Thune reiterated "Congress must take the lead in setting a clear path forward through bipartisan legislation to avoid the risk of regulatory back and forth...I call on Democrats and Republicans who want to preserve a free and open internet to work together on permanent consumer protections."

Senator Bill Nelson affirmed <https://www.congress.gov/congressional-record/2017/11/27/senate-section/article/s7319-6?r=35> : "At the end of the day, sometime in the future, there may be an opportunity for a legislative solution, but it must be a balanced solution that protects the right of the public to a free and open internet." He reconfirmed <https://www.commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/pressreleases?ID=36F0486E-52EB-4FBE-99E8-63E1002C1EC5> his support for a legislative solution today.

Another Democrat, Senator Claire McCaskill, agreed <https://www.mccaskill.senate.gov/media-center/news-releases/highlighting-concerns-of-nearly-450000-missourians-mccaskill-opposes-changes-to-net-neutrality-rules> : "I have long said that Congress should settle the issue of net neutrality once and for all with legislation to provide certainty for consumers and providers alike."


More than 100 House Republicans signed a letter <https://energycommerce.house.gov/news/press-release/ec-leads-republican-letter-fcc-restoring-internet-freedom> urging bipartisan Congressional action: "After broadband is restored to its rightful regulatory home, under the light-touch approach that guided federal oversight of the Internet and nurtured its expansive growth for decades, the stage will be set for Congress to determine how to best enact permanent protections for the bipartisan net neutrality principles on which we will agree."

Telecommunications Subcommittee Chair Marsha Blackburn has reiterated <http://docs.house.gov/meetings/IF/IF16/20170725/106312/HHRG-115-IF16-M5state-B001243-20170725.pdf> "Let me be clear, Republicans have always supported a free and open Internet. We must move past the partisan rhetoric. Ranking Member Pallone said in 2010 that this is a job for Congress. I agree."
House Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Greg Walden has continued to call for bipartisan legislation: “I again call on my Democratic colleagues, edge providers and ISPs, and all those who make up the diverse internet ecosystem that has flourished under light-touch regulation to come to the table and work with us on bipartisan legislation that preserves an open internet while not discouraging the investments necessary to fully connect all Americans. Too much is at stake to have this issue ping-pong between different FCC commissions and various courts over the next decade.”

And, both Blackburn and Walden emphasized the need for legislation today after the FCC vote: “Now, the table is set for Congress to provide clear, permanent rules through a bipartisan legislative solution. We hope that all stakeholders, and our Democratic colleagues, will finally engage in serious negotiations soon.”

We’ve previously noted multiple other parties – from all sides of the political spectrum, from both politics and industry – who have also previously called for legislation.

Unfortunately, there are others who want to continue engaging in a never ending game of back and forth, creating unnecessary anxiety and contributing to an unneeded level of hysteria. Some will undoubtedly continue threatening litigation that does nothing to protect consumers or freedom of the Internet. Others will say the FCC is shirking its responsibilities, when the real authority truly lies within Congress.

Given the broad agreement as to the content of appropriate net neutrality rules, and a developing consensus that the best road forward is bipartisan congressional legislation, it is hard to make the case that it is not worth a serious attempt by Congress to try to craft a permanent legislative solution. And we should all be a constructive part of such an effort.

As I said yesterday, our Internet practices will remain the same: Comcast customers will continue to enjoy the benefits of an open Internet today, tomorrow, and in the future. Our customers are our priority. That is why we want to suggest a moratorium on charged political rhetoric and ask Congress to enact bipartisan legislation to protect consumers and the open Internet in the years to come, regardless of the outcome of any future elections. We look forward to continuing to work with policymakers to develop forward thinking, bipartisan legislation to end this back and forth once and for all.

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Cox Remains Committed to Net Neutrality Rules

ATLANTA - December 14, 2017 - The following statement can be attributed to Cox Communications:

"Today’s vote by the FCC to remove the Title II section of the Net Neutrality rules does not impact our commitment to Net Neutrality. We do not block, throttle or otherwise interfere with consumers’ desire to go where they want on the Internet. Cox has always been committed to providing an open Internet experience for our customers, and reversing the classification of Internet services does not change our commitment. We applaud FCC Chairman Ajit Pai for his leadership that has overturned the previous Commission’s decision to enact Title II, the 1930s-era utility telephone regulations. Reestablishing ‘light-touch’ regulation returns a level of certainty for consumer protections and future investment and innovation that spur the growth of the Internet."

About Cox Communications

Cox Communications is a broadband communications and entertainment company, providing advanced digital video, Internet, telephone and home security and automation services over its own nationwide IP network. The third-largest U.S. cable company, Cox serves approximately 6 million residences and businesses. Cox Business is a facilities-based provider of voice, video and data solutions for commercial customers, and Cox Media is a full-service provider of national and local cable spot and digital media advertising. Cox is known for its pioneering efforts in broadband, voice and commercial services, industry-leading customer care and its outstanding workplaces. For nine years, Cox has been recognized as the top operator for women by Women in Cable Telecommunications; Cox has ranked among DiversityInc’s Top 50 Companies for Diversity 12 times. More information about Cox Communications, a wholly owned subsidiary of Cox Enterprises, is available at www.cox.com and www.coxmedia.com

http://newsroom.cox.com/cox-remains-committed-to-net-neutrality
Blog December 14, 2017
Charter Communications

Why We Will Continue to Support an Open Internet

During this important debate on the future of internet regulations, Charter has been consistent and clear: we support a vibrant and open internet that enables our customers to access the lawful content of their choice when and where they want it. We commend the FCC Chairman and Commissioners for their action today that re-establishes the light touch regulatory framework that had been in place for decades when the Internet took root and grew into an important tool for daily life and a major engine of economic growth.

Charter supports an open internet because we believe delivering superior broadband to our customers is an essential ingredient to growing our business. Without an open internet, that isn’t possible. We don’t slow down, block, or discriminate against lawful content. Simply put, we don’t interfere with the lawful online practices of our customers and we have no plans to change our practices.

We are constantly improving our network to keep pace with new, data-hungry apps, streaming video and other bandwidth intensive services. We’re proud to offer the industry’s fastest entry level broadband speeds of 100Mbps across virtually our entire 41 state footprint. Importantly, Charter doesn’t impose data caps or engage in usage-based billing, meaning our customers can engage with the content they want as much as they want. These policies are part of our business objective of providing our customers with a high value broadband experience.

The FCC’s action today will help Charter serve our customers even better. Rather than applying Title II regulations designed for 1930’s telephone companies, we need a regulatory framework built for the 21st century. Our objection to Title II has never been about not wanting to provide our customers with an Open Internet. Rather we have been concerned about its overly broad and vague prohibitions as well as the potential for rate regulation. By bringing its approach into the 21st century, the FCC is helping provide regulatory predictability so companies like Charter can be confident in making even greater investments in our broadband networks.

These infrastructure investments are critical to our ability to innovate and improve our broadband service and deploy it to parts of the country that are harder and more expensive to serve, like rural communities. Since 2014, we’ve invested $21 billion in our infrastructure and technology. Earlier this year we said that given the appropriate regulatory environment, a big part of which is removing Title II, we would invest an additional $25 billion in technology and infrastructure in the next few years.

This is why Charter also supports Congress pursuing bipartisan legislation that enshrines an open internet into law and spurs broadband deployment and investment. Such legislation would provide permanent regulatory assurance and create an environment that allows for more long-term planning that will help us continue to provide even better broadband across our country.

Charter recognizes this debate has stirred passions. But in the days and weeks ahead, we hope our customers remember two things: 1) we will continue to provide them with a superior broadband service that includes an open internet; and 2) by bringing internet regulations into the 21st century, we can ensure more future innovation, improvement and availability of our broadband.
Blog March 31, 2017
Charter Communications
Charter’s Commitment to Consumer Privacy Has Not Changed

Protecting the privacy of our consumers is one of our most important responsibilities as a broadband provider. Recent activity by Congress does not change, or weaken, Charter’s commitment to the protection of our customers’ online privacy, or our rigorous privacy practices and policies. To be clear it also does not change the way in which Charter collects, uses or shares customer information.

Our privacy policies and practices are consistent with the Federal Trade Commission’s privacy framework, which has been well-respected and effective for more than 20 years, and we adhere to additional privacy protections required by federal and state privacy laws.

In May 2016, Charter combined with Time Warner Cable Inc. ("TWC") and Bright House Networks LLC ("BHN"), and is in the process of carefully integrating the companies’ legacy practices. As part of that process, Charter is reviewing the practices of the three companies to ensure we are providing our customers with uniform, transparent and easy-to-understand information.

While we are completing that process, we want to highlight a few key points about how we collect and use our customer data, which applies to all of our customers.

We do not sell or otherwise share our Internet customers' web browsing histories to third parties. We also do not sell or share our Internet customers' information for personalized third-party marketing or advertising.

In the event that we change these business practices, we would provide customers with notice and choice before utilizing such data for marketing or advertising purposes.

Customers can learn more about our privacy practices by visiting https://buy.charter.com/browse/content/residentprivacy. Former Time Warner Cable customers can visit http://help.twcable.com/twc_privacy_notice.html and former Bright House Networks customers can visit http://brighthouse.com/policies/customer-privacy.html. They may also select their privacy and marketing preferences via phone with a customer service representative, or via an electronic form located online.
Measuring state's energy, transportation and internet infrastructure rankings

Data powered by McKinsey & Company

Best States Rankings


The condition of infrastructure is key to evaluating the quality of life for any state's citizens. In ranking the best states for infrastructure, we measured energy, transportation and Internet.

2007 to 2009 recession has driven up the costs of projects, and limited state budgets pose a challenge for infrastructure rebuilding. Roads, bridges, ports and other public works, plus the shortage of skilled construction workers, left from the American Society of Civil Engineers' 2013 report card, President Donald Trump has vowed to invest $1 trillion to improve the nation's infrastructure, a key goal of his administration.

Infrastructure, use of renewable energy, and the quality of roads and bridges were major considerations. While the U.S. is behind in infrastructure, earning a D+ in 2017, the report noted that states with better infrastructure are perceived as better places to live and work. The condition of infrastructure is key to evaluating the quality of life for any state's citizens.

9. Renewable Energy Usage #37
8. Power Grid Reliability #22
7. Electricity Price #49

ENERGY #44

6. Road Quality #50
5. Public Transit Usage #19
4. Commute Time #37
3. Bridge Quality #25

TRANSPORTATION #47

2. Online Download Speed #
1. Households With Internet Access #6

INTERNET ACCESS #3

Connecticut Infrastructure National Rank #26

Exhibit C