

TELL TRUMP'S FCC AND THE GOP: DON'T KILL FREE SPEECH ON THE INTERNET

Right now, Trump's FCC chairman is trying to gut our fundamental rights on the internet.

- The Trump administration is on a rampage to trample our rights on the internet - from privacy to free speech to the open internet and net neutrality, the Trump administration and FCC Chairman Ajit Pai stand poised to hand over the reins of the internet to the cable giants like AT&T, Comcast, and Verizon to control what you do and say online.

Net neutrality is under threat, why does that matter?

- **Net neutrality is the basic rule that your internet company treat all information the same**, regardless of whether it's a movie, a photo on Facebook, or a news article. This is what has made the internet such a powerful tool for political organizing, education, and business.
 - Strong net neutrality rules ensure everyone has equal opportunity to carry out essential functions such as furthering education, enrolling in health care and applying for a job.
 - Net neutrality is particularly crucial to communities of color because it allows people to bypass traditional media gatekeepers and tell their own stories online, challenging mainstream media narratives and dangerous stereotypes.
- President Trump has embraced authoritarianism, calling the media "enemy of the American people." **His FCC Chairman is now carrying out the Trump authoritarian agenda of trying to shut down free speech and dissent online by killing net neutrality.**
- **Republicans want to carry out the Trump agenda to kill net neutrality**, which means your internet company would be able to control what websites or applications you're able to access, or charge you more to visit specific sites.
- **Republicans in Congress already rammed through legislation to remove online privacy rules** that allow your internet company to collect data on what you do online and sell it to the highest bidder without your permission. Don't let them do the same to net neutrality.
 - Like the rollback of the privacy rules, nobody asked for those protections to be stripped. That vote, which was forced through by Republican leadership, was nothing but a gift to big cable companies.
- The FCC already has strong rules in place to protect net neutrality, and allow free and open access to all websites by anyone who uses the internet. **More than 4 million**

people voiced their support for these rules, and Congress will hear from them again if they try to act. We are still watching.

- Republicans want to replace the current rules with weak legislation that will let your internet provider create fast lanes and charge companies more to use them, **effectively slowing down your access to voices online that can't afford to pay these fees.** They want cable companies to write their own rules, without anyone else to review or enforce them. It gives providers carte blanche to do what they want, regardless of the consequences for consumers.
- We **need a guardian to make sure companies don't take advantage of us and shut down free speech and mobilization online.** The FCC is that guardian - don't let Trump and his cohorts gut its ability to do its job!
- Ending net neutrality will make it harder for new companies to succeed and for new voices to be heard on the internet. **It will only line the pockets of Verizon and Comcast, and make them the gatekeepers to what you see, do, and say on the internet.**

Net neutrality allows all movements and people to mobilize and communicate freely online. **We need your support to win the battle for the net again, or everyone and every movement risks being silenced online.**

Tell your representative that:

1. You support the FCC's current rules on net neutrality and the legal authority that protects them - they should be kept in place.
2. They SHOULD NOT compromise and accept anything less than strong net neutrality rules and the FCC's authority to enforce them.

Resources:

Background on net neutrality:

https://www.freepress.net/sites/default/files/resources/net_neutrality_primer_04_2015_0.pdf

Why net neutrality is important to racial and social justice:

http://www.internetvoices.org/sites/default/files/resources/net_neutrality_voices_fact_sheet.pdf

["Trump Is About to Find Out What Happens When You Mess With the Open Internet."](#)
[Motherboard](#)

["The tech industry is already rebelling against the FCC's latest plan for net neutrality."](#) [Recode](#)