

Chairman Genachowski. Can You Hear Us Now?

News that corporations are meeting behind closed doors to craft a “legislative framework” for the Internet has been met with near universal disdain.

In editorial after editorial, the nation’s newspapers have urged FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski to step up efforts to preserve Net Neutrality, re-assert the FCC’s power to protect Internet users and promote universal broadband access. In addition, hundreds of thousands of Americans have written and called the FCC urging its leadership to reclassify the agency’s authority over broadband Internet access and take decisive action.

Tell Chairman Genachowski that you support reclassification and Net Neutrality. Urge him to act now on our behalf.

San Jose Mercury News, August 20:

“Federal Communications Commission Chairman Julius Genachowski has offered a reasonable ‘Third Way’ proposal that would regulate broadband much like phone service, but in a limited way that’s better suited to modern technology. We urge him to continue pursuing a version of that strategy, even amid intense opposition.”

USA Today, August 18:

“... the Internet is under assault by those who would erect tollbooths on what is now a freeway. It is also clear evidence of how the FCC needs to set up clear rules to prevent Internet service providers and device makers from controlling what content people can access.”

New York Times, August 14:

“The F.C.C. has been searching for a way to ensure an open Internet since April ... In May, the commission proposed to reclassify broadband as a telecommunications service, the right definition for this era. This process must be allowed to proceed. “

Boston Globe, August 17:

“But at the moment, the choice appears to be between having major industries self-regulate their Internet behavior, and having the FCC regulate it. Given that the Google-Verizon proposal seems helpful primarily to Google and Verizon at the expense of an open, innovation-friendly Internet, it’s time for the FCC to step in.”

The Seattle Times, August 12:

“The FCC must assert its regulatory prerogatives over broadband and seek clarifying authority where the rules need to be sorted out. The FCC is not an agent of the industries it oversees. President Obama and Chairman Genachowski need to remember whom they work for. The customers will not forget.”

San Francisco Chronicle, August 10:

“...the Google-Verizon pact isn’t even close. They need to go back to the drawing board and get support from consumer groups and Internet users instead of just broadband carriers and web giants. The FCC also needs to step in immediately, by reclassifying broadband under a section of the telecommunications code that’s subject to more scrutiny -- and therefore less ability to discriminate.”

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