

February 16, 2011

Dear Chairman Upton, Ranking Member Waxman, Chairman Walden, and Ranking Member Eshoo:

The below signed organizations support the Open Internet and oppose any attempt to repeal the Federal Communication Commission's (FCC) Open Internet rules through the Congressional Review Act. Utilizing the Congressional Review Act would not only eliminate the current FCC rules, it would eliminate the FCC's ability to protect innovation, speech, and commerce on broadband platforms on behalf of the American people.

The Internet has been and must remain an open platform. Regardless of political or social values, an Open Internet increases opportunities for all persons and communities, increases diversity of opinions and thought, and ensures that consumers and entrepreneurs alike can engage in and benefit from the opportunities afforded by access to the Internet. An Open Internet is also an engine for economic growth, innovation, and job creation.

The FCC has adopted a framework that the agency believes will preserve the Open Internet. We wholeheartedly support preservation of the FCC's authority to implement such rules. This framework was adopted in a proceeding in which broadband service providers, Internet companies, civil rights groups, labor organizations, and public interest groups all participated.

We urge Congress not to utilize the Congressional Review Act, given the negative consequences of its enactment. Instead, we hope that Congress will work to preserve openness online and to move forward expeditiously in implementation of the National Broadband Plan. Undertaking such initiatives would improve broadband deployment and adoption opportunities for all Americans, including individuals in typically rural and other underserved populations and in communities of color too often denied a meaningful opportunity to participate in the new economy.

For these reasons, we urge you to ensure that all your constituents can continue to benefit from an Open Internet, and we stand ready to work with Congress to preserve an Open Internet.

Respectfully submitted,

Access Humboldt  
AFL-CIO  
Alliance for Community Media  
Alliance for Digital Equality  
Alliance for Justice  
Alliance for Retired Americans  
American Civil Liberties Union  
Amnesty International USA  
Applied Research Center  
Arizona Progress Action  
Berkeley Community Media  
Blue Green Alliance  
Bold Nebraska  
CCTV Center for Media and Democracy  
Center for Democracy and Technology  
Center for Media Justice  
Center for Rural Strategies  
Center for Social Inclusion  
Coalition of Black Trade Unionists  
Coalition of Labor Union Women  
Communications Workers of America  
Community Media Workshop  
Consumer Federation of America  
Consumers Union  
Creative Coworking  
Esperanza Peace and Justice Center  
Evanston Community Media Center  
First Voice Media  
Free Press  
Future of Music Coalition  
Houston Interfaith Worker Justice  
iarte design  
Instituto de Educacion Popular del Sur de  
California  
International Brotherhood of Electrical  
Workers  
Keystone Progress  
KUMN Youth Radio  
Latinos for Internet Freedom  
Latino Print Network  
League of United Latin American Citizens  
Main Street Project  
Media Access Project  
Media Alliance  
Media Justice League  
Media Literacy Project  
Media Mobilizing Project

National Alliance for Media, Art, and  
Culture  
National Association of Hispanic  
Journalists  
National Congress of American Indians  
National Consumers League  
National Hispanic Media Coalition  
National Latino Farmers & Ranchers  
Trade Association  
National Network for Immigrant and  
Refugee Rights  
New America Foundation  
New York Community Media Alliance  
Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition  
One Wisconsin Now  
onShore Networks  
Open Access Connections  
Pineros Y Campesinos Unidos del  
Noroeste, Oregon's Farmworker  
Union  
People Organizing to Demand  
Environmental and Economic Rights  
People's Production House  
People's Channel  
Praxis Project  
Presente.org  
Progressive Tech Project  
Progress Michigan  
ProgressNow Nevada Action  
ProgressOhio  
Prometheus Radio Project  
Public Knowledge  
Quote/Unquote, Inc.  
Reclaim the Media  
Sierra Club  
Southwest Organizing Project  
Southwest Workers Union  
SpiritHouse  
The Highlander Research and Education  
Center  
Thousand Kites  
Transmission Project  
United Auto Workers  
United Church of Christ, Office of  
Communication, Inc.  
UNITY: Journalists of Color  
Writers Guild of America, West