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The Honorable Chairman Ajit Pai
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Pai:

Thank you for your efforts to reduce the regulatory burdens imposed on the market and promote open policies. The actions and efforts of the Trump Administration have breathed life into many small businesses across the country.

In principle, rolling back regulations and simplifying compliance rules for businesses should lead to more jobs being created – a goal which I know we all share. However, in the particular case of Net Neutrality, I have been approached by a number of small businesses that are concerned that the lack of competition in the Internet Service Provider (ISP) market that could lead to monopolistic behavior. This is very concerning.

Many of my constituents, specifically small and local radio stations, have raised concerns over the repeal of Net Neutrality. Such companies have stated that blocking and throttling by ISPs would be a serious problem for the industry as they attempt to further connect with their listeners through online engagement. Some in the media have claimed that there have been cases of slowing or blocking certain websites. Also, there are worries that this may mean the government will allow a select few ISPs and large technology companies to have a tremendous amount of control of the Internet. This could have serious unintended consequences which may stifle innovation and lead to fewer jobs created. Small, community based radio stations play a meaningful and valuable role to their communities.

Therefore, I ask:

- How does the FCC intend to address the concerns of small businesses regarding the repeal of Net Neutrality that may lead to a lack of competition in the ISP market?
- Are you aware of any documented cases of slowing, blocking, and throttling by ISPs of certain websites?
- Do you plan to accompany the elimination of Net Neutrality with deregulating efforts to expand and open the construction of needed Internet infrastructure in order to ensure sufficient competition?
- What anti-trust remedies does the FCC have to address this matter in the case of abuse?
- Does the FCC plan to provide proper oversight of large technology companies that have used their increasing market share to stifle outside opinions, including recent examples of algorithms being altered to reduce conservative search results?

- How does this new policy affect the FCC's ability to combat ISPs and technology companies' complicity in foreign censorship of the internet?

Respectfully, I look forward to your prompt response and continued engagement with me on this matter.

Regards,



Robert Pittenger
Member of Congress