OPEN TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE

The American People Broadly Support Net Neutrality

In 2015, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) put in place strong Net Neutrality rules that prohibited internet service providers (ISPs) like Comcast and Verizon from blocking or slowing consumers' access to certain websites. The rules also prohibited providers from creating a two-tiered internet with a fast lane for companies that can afford it, and a slow lane for everyone else. Net Neutrality protects consumers *and* small businesses, while allowing ISPs to grow and to continue to offer crucial internet service. A then-unprecedented millions of Americans participated in the proceeding and overwhelmingly called for strong, enforceable Net Neutrality rules.

However, this administration's new FCC chairman, Ajit Pai, has decided that despite having tenuous evidence of negative impact, and much evidence of positive impact, the Net Neutrality rules now have to go. A radical proposal from May began the process to reverse the open internet protections with no viable replacement to protect internet users from the massive corporations that control the market (sound familiar?).

As millions have detailed in filings to the FCC, the Net Neutrality rules are necessary to protect Americans online and a robust internet economy. The rules are important, they are legally sound and they are consistent with the history of this country's telecommunications policies.

Net Neutrality is also incredibly popular among the American people. But don't take our word for it—numerous surveys have shown Americans of all political leanings support Net Neutrality and expect the protections enshrined in the FCC's 2015 Open Internet Order. Below is a collection of the surveys conducted by consumer groups, the cable industry, and nonpartisan polling agencies that show the broad, overwhelming support for Net Neutrality:

Source:	*Results*:
NCTA—The Internet & Television Association/Morning Consult	Even a survey conducted by the cable industry's largest trade association found that **61% of all Americans** support the FCC's Net Neutrality rules.
Ipsos/Mozilla	**76% of all Americans, 81% of Democrats, and 73% of Republicans** all support Net Neutrality. **Only** **14% of all Americans, 12% of**

	Democrats, and 19% of Republicans said that internet service providers should be able to "offer fast lanes with quicker load times to websites that pay a premium."
Morning Consult/POLITICO	**61% of Democrats, 59% of Independents, and 59% of Republicans** support Net Neutrality rules that say internet service providers "cannot block, throttle or prioritize certain content on the internet."
INCOMPAS/IMGE Insights	**75% of all voters, 75% of Trump voters, and 72% of Republicans** all agree that internet service providers should be prohibited from slowing or blocking websites and video services. **87% of all voters, 88% of Trump voters, and 90% of Republicans** all agree that consumers should be able to access any websites they want on the internet, without any blocking, slowing down, or throttling by their internet service provider.
Civis Analytics/Freedman Consulting	**77% of all Americans, 80% of Democrats, 76% of Independents, and 73% of Republicans** all support keeping the FCC's current Net Neutrality rules. **88% of all Americans** agreed with the statement: "When I buy internet service, I am paying to transmit information between my computer and the websites I visit, free from interference."
Consumer Reports	**67% of all Americans** agreed that internet service providers should not be able to choose which websites, apps, or streaming services their customers can access.