

Net Neutrality Talking Points

Net neutrality prevents internet companies from charging businesses for the privilege of faster speed support for their websites, and ensures that websites with less traffic or financial ability to pay for faster speed support are protected.

Net neutrality is essential for a future built on technology; email, interactive online services, and e-commerce, as well as technological innovation and experimentation depend on a free and open internet.

In a 2013 appeals court hearing, Verizon Wireless admitted that the FCC's Open Internet rules were the only thing preventing them from charging websites in order for them to reach Verizon subscribers. Internet service providers have a history of preventing content from reaching subscribers already, and they've admitted that net neutrality is the only thing keeping them honest. We must protect consumers from corporations making a profit on what is supposed to be a free and open internet.

Minnesota should pursue two principles to protect the interests of individual and business consumers as they access information and services through the internet: internet privacy and net neutrality. These principles are critical for privacy, innovation, fairness, and democracy.

Minnesota should adopt a strong principle that ensures that the Internet is open to all lawful uses.

Internet service companies should live up to basic net neutrality principles, which:

- ensure neutrality on all public networks
- prohibit blocking of websites and applications
- protect against unreasonable discrimination
- prohibit paid prioritization
- prevent degradation of internet networks
- provide transparency and clear and robust mechanisms for resolving consumer and content provider complaints
- accommodate public safety

Internet access is considered a public utility for a reason – because it is a crucial service for Minnesotans to access information, attend college, and build businesses. I support providing free internet to our citizens to ensure that all Minnesotans have these opportunities.

It's frustrating to see what should be a basic utility for Minnesotans be subject to politics. I believe in net neutrality and will support legislation on protecting it at the state level this session.