

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-0506  
October 9, 2014

The Honorable Henry H. Waxman  
Ranking Member  
Energy and Commerce Committee  
2322A Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Ranking Member Waxman,

I am writing to thank you for inviting me to host a congressional forum on net neutrality in my district of Sacramento, California. The forum was held on September 25, 2014 at the California State Capitol. It was a highly valuable forum where I hosted Commissioners Mignon Clyburn and Jessica Rosenworcel of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), along with a panel of five witnesses offering their perspectives on the pending net neutrality proposal put forth by FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler.

During the forum, the witnesses offered excellent testimony on how a paid prioritization scheme would impact libraries, innovation, content producers, and public broadcasters in my district of Sacramento and in California. I believe that their testimony offered unique perspectives that can only be heard outside of Washington, DC. The following are some key takeaways from the witness testimony:

- Rivkah Sass of the Sacramento Library system voiced concerns that a pay for priority scheme will hurt the ability of local libraries to stream their educational content online.
- Chris Kelly, founder of Kelly Investments, stated that paid prioritization is an “innovation tax” that will stifle capital and investment in the Internet ecosystem.
- David Lowe, an Emmy-award winning executive producer and president of KVIE Public Television Sacramento, discussed how he is adapting to the digital trends in the market and needs unfettered access to the internet to stream content online.
- Commissioner Catherine J.K. Sandoval of the California Public Utilities Commission (PUC) raised new points that paid prioritization agreements would negatively impact hospitals and public safety.
- Melissa Rosenberg, an Emmy nominated writer and producer, representing the Writers Guild of America, West, argued that paid prioritization would stifle creativity and consumer choice online.

I believe my net neutrality forum in Sacramento will have a positive impact on the FCC's proposal moving forward. I applaud Commissioners Clyburn and Rosenworcel for traveling outside of Washington and engaging with my constituents and Californians on the future of the Internet. I believe that they heard from a wide range of stakeholders about the negative consequences of a two-tiered Internet. Our country cannot have an Internet with fast lanes for some and slow lanes for others.

As the FCC begins to carefully review the record 3.7 million comments submitted in response to Chairman Wheeler's proposal, I trust that they, particularly Commissioners Clyburn and Rosenworcel, will be mindful that these Americans took time out of their busy days to contact the FCC and share their views on the future of the Internet. It is critical that the FCC produce a plan that strongly supports net neutrality, preserves an open Internet, promotes transparency, and prohibits paid prioritization agreements. The FCC has a historic opportunity to ensure that the Internet ecosystem remains vibrant and a model for the world.

Again, I would like to thank you for inviting me to host this forum. I would also like to thank you for allowing the forum to be part of the Energy and Commerce official record and included on your website. Your leadership on this issue has been profound and I look forward to continuing to work with you on this and other issues facing our Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doris Matsui", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Doris O. Matsui  
Member of Congress