



TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

1320 N. Courthouse Rd., Suite 200  
Arlington, VA 22201 USA  
[www.tiaonline.org](http://www.tiaonline.org)

Tel: +1.703.907.7700  
Fax: +1.703.907.7727

June 18, 2014

The Honorable Spencer Bachus  
Rayburn House Office Building B-352  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hank Johnson  
Rayburn House Office Building B351  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Bachus and Ranking Member Johnson:

As you consider the important issues associated with net neutrality, we wanted to share with you TIA's long-standing position that the Internet must continue to remain free and open, allowing for the connectivity of devices and access to information.<sup>1</sup> At the same time, investment and innovation relies upon certainty in the marketplace and the ability to recoup investments made on broadband infrastructure.

At the heart of this debate is the consumer's ability to access information and need for more capacity provided by broadband communications networks that would support the growth of national and global economies.

Deployment of next-generation broadband networks is bringing major advances in education, healthcare, teleworking, e-commerce, public safety and security. These capabilities are equipping users with the tools necessary to compete in the 21st century, making them far more productive, increasing their standards of living, and enhancing economic and physical security. As the DC Circuit held in January, the FCC already has the necessary legal authority for a balanced approach towards maintaining an open Internet.<sup>2</sup>

The question of whether or not to impose utility-style regulation on Internet Service Providers has previously been thoroughly considered – and rejected by the FCC. The Internet has flourished due to the U.S.'s long standing light touch regulatory approach. TIA has previously released evidence of the negative impact that reclassification of the Internet under the Communications Act as a Title II telecommunications service would have.<sup>3</sup>

TIA thanks you again, and we look forward to working with you on these important issues. For more information, please contact Danielle Coffey at (703)-907-7734 or by email at [dcoffey@tiaonline.org](mailto:dcoffey@tiaonline.org).

Sincerely,

Grant Seiffert  
President

<sup>1</sup> See, High Tech Broadband Coalition Letter to Chairman Powell, September 25, 2003, CS Docket No. 02- 52; GN Docket No. 00-185; CC Docket Nos. 02-33, 95-20 & 98-10

<sup>2</sup> See, Verizon v. FCC, No. 11-1355 (D.C. Cir. Jan. 14, 2014)

<sup>3</sup> 47 U.S. Code Chapter 5. Also see, also [Multi-Association Letter Urging the Commission to Refrain from Reclassifying Broadband Internet Access as a Title II Common Carrier Service under the Telecom Act](http://www.tiaonline.org/gov_affairs/fcc_filings/documents/Joint%20Title%20II%20Letter.pdf), April 29, 2010. [http://www.tiaonline.org/gov\\_affairs/fcc\\_filings/documents/Joint%20Title%20II%20Letter.pdf](http://www.tiaonline.org/gov_affairs/fcc_filings/documents/Joint%20Title%20II%20Letter.pdf); [Multi-Association Letter Urging the Commission to Refrain from Reclassifying Broadband Internet Access as a Title II Common Carrier Service under the Telecom Act](http://www.tiaonline.org/gov_affairs/fcc_filings/documents/Feb%20Reclass%20Letter.%20Multi-Assn.pdf), February 22, 2010. [http://www.tiaonline.org/gov\\_affairs/fcc\\_filings/documents/Feb%20Reclass%20Letter.%20Multi-Assn.pdf](http://www.tiaonline.org/gov_affairs/fcc_filings/documents/Feb%20Reclass%20Letter.%20Multi-Assn.pdf)