



March 18, 2015

The Honorable Greg Walden  
House of Representatives  
2125 RHOB  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Anna Eshoo  
House of Representatives  
2322A RHOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Walden and Ranking Member Eshoo:

The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA), the leading trade association for global manufacturers, vendors, and suppliers of information and communications technology (ICT), applauds you for holding a hearing to address the FCC's recent Open Internet order. We hope that this can lead to bi-partisan legislation.

TIA has previously joined others in contending that the reclassification of broadband Internet access service under Title II of the Communications Act will have significant adverse long-term consequences. While American consumers have benefitted from a 250% average increase in download speeds over the past four years, sixty of America's top technology companies recently warned that if Title II were applied to the Internet, potential capital investment over the next five years could be reduced by up to \$45.4 billion.<sup>1</sup> Consumers, businesses large and small, and the U.S. economy will feel the impact. Moreover, the interests of *all* parties – even those supporting Title II reclassification – have already been disadvantaged by the near-term prospect of years of uncertainty and litigation regarding the FCC's decision.

Meanwhile, a clear consensus has developed that Internet users should be assured of unfettered access to their choice of content or services. Therefore, TIA believes that Congress is uniquely qualified to address this issue by providing the FCC with the necessary authority to assure an Open Internet, while simultaneously avoiding regulatory excesses and eliminating the uncertainty that has already begun to cripple continuing investments in broadband deployment.

TIA and our member companies thank you again for your leadership, and we look forward to working with you on these important issues. For more information, please contact Mark Uncapher at 703-907-7733 or by email at [muncapher@tiaonline.org](mailto:muncapher@tiaonline.org).

Very best regards,



Scott Belcher

Chief Executive Officer  
Telecommunications Industry Association

<sup>1</sup> See Ex Parte Letter from Telecommunications Industry Association on behalf of multiple companies to FCC Chairman Wheeler *et al.*, GN Docket No. 14-28, *Protecting and Promoting the Open Internet* (filed Dec. 9, 2014), [https://www.tiaonline.org/sites/default/files/pages/Internet\\_ecosystem\\_letter\\_FINAL\\_12.10.14.pdf](https://www.tiaonline.org/sites/default/files/pages/Internet_ecosystem_letter_FINAL_12.10.14.pdf)