



ACLU of Oregon¹ Urges a Yes Vote on HB 4155 Promoting Net Neutrality

The internet began and has flourished as a free and open network. This freedom allowed the internet to thrive: spreading art, music, and creativity across the globe; transforming political activism and civic engagement; and providing a wide variety of social and economic opportunities.

Unfortunately, recent actions by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) eliminated the federal regulations that preserved the free and open exchange of information on the internet. We encourage you to take this opportunity to pass a state-level net neutrality law to turn back the tide.

Without net neutrality, our rights and the vitality of the internet are threatened, allowing Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to use their gatekeeper position to speed, slow, or block communication and services on the internet based on who can pay more or who they disagree or agree with. Net neutrality will keep the internet open and free, enabling future generations to fully utilize the greatest platform for free expression, democracy, and innovation we have ever known.

This bill uses the purchasing power of state and local government in Oregon to promote net neutrality among ISPs. More specifically, this bill will prohibit state and local government from contracting with ISPs for the provision of broadband internet access service unless the ISP fully complies with the following net neutrality principles:

Transparency! ISPs must disclose their network management practices, performance, and terms of service, so the public will know they are providing net neutral service.

No Blocking! ISPs may not prevent access to lawful content, applications, and services.

No Throttling! ISPs may not slow down applications and services to hinder competition.

No Paid Prioritization! ISPs may not give content creators, applications and services preferential treatment in exchange for payment.

No Unreasonable Interference or Discrimination! ISPs must provide equal and unbiased access to content, applications, and services.

The ACLU of Oregon urges you to Support HB 4155!

¹ The American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon (ACLU of Oregon) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization with more than 42,000 members in the State of Oregon.