

Free Press Action Fund Vote Recommendation Opposing H.R. 2666, the No Rate Regulation of Broadband Internet Access Act

Vote NO because the language is overly broad and undermines the FCC's ability to protect consumers and the open Internet.

While the FCC specifically forbore in the Open Internet Order from its price-setting power, this bill is written so broadly that it would tie the agency's hands from acting to protect consumers. The language goes beyond a narrow focus on "rate-making" and could keep the FCC from guarding against unfair or unreasonable practices of any variety.

This provision, which restricts the agency from acting both now and in the future, could prevent oversight of unfair billing practices, unreasonable penalties and fees, price gouging, data caps and zero rating, interconnection fees, consumer privacy and other issues for which the impacts have not been fully explored.

In addition to broad opposition from the public interest community, the bill has garnered opposition from the White House, which issued a Statement of Administration Policy explaining its opposition to the bill.

Congress should not cripple the expert agency's ability to enforce important consumer protections in a field that is rapidly evolving. Vote no on H.R. 2666, the No Rate Regulation of Broadband Internet Access Act.