NET NEUTRALITY
SIMPLIFYING A COMPLEX ISSUE
**Open Internet**

All legal content on the Internet is accessible and no content is provided at faster or slower speeds than the rest.

Source: White House, FCC
Graphic: Staff, Tribune News Service

**Tiered Internet**

Some content is faster or slower – a process called “throttling” – or blocked based on fees paid by content providers to Internet service providers.
Three Sides to Net Neutrality

Powerful players are lining up on both sides of the issue, whereas others still hope for compromise. Here's a partial sampling.

**IN FAVOR**
- Large, Internet-based companies
  - Amazon.com, eBay, Google, Microsoft, Yahoo

**CONSUMER/CIVIL LIBERTIES GROUPS**
- American Civil Liberties Union
- Consumers Union, Free Press, Public Knowledge

**SPECIAL-INTEREST GROUPS**
- American Library Association
- Christian Coalition of America
- Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility
- Gun Owners of America, MoveOn.org, TechNet

**INTERNET PIONEERS**
- Vinton Cerf, Tim Berners-Lee, Lawrence Lessig, Craig Newmark

**MIDDLE GROUND**
- The Center for Democracy and a group led by New Yorkers for Fair Use Technology have both proposed rules that would allow a separate tier of service for products such as television over IP, while treating all public Internet content equally.

**IN THE CENTER**
- The Information Technology and Innovation Foundation would allow broadband providers to offer exclusive, high-speed services, but it would also guarantee a level of broadband service without paying new fees.

**OPPOSED**
- Large broadband providers
  - AT&T, BellSouth, Comcast, Verizon

**NETWORK EQUIPMENT PROVIDERS**
- Alcatel, Cisco, Corning, Qualcomm, 3M

**FREE-MARKET THINK TANKS**
- Center for Individual Freedom
- Competitive Enterprise Institute, Progress and Freedom Foundation

**SPECIAL-INTEREST GROUPS**
- American Conservative Union, Citizens Against Government Waste, National Association of Manufacturers, National Black Chamber of Commerce, National Coalition on Black Civic Participation
Net Neutrality in Numbers

High bandwidth websites, which would likely be hugely affected by the abolition of net neutrality, currently enjoy widespread usage.

- 41% of people use video streaming websites such as Netflix.
- 33% of people use music streaming websites such as Pandora.
- 22% of people use video/audio chat websites such as Skype.
SAMPLE PRICING BEFORE NET NEUTRALITY
Selected media/content brands owned by internet service providers in the United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brand</th>
<th>Subscribers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMCAST</td>
<td>24.3m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AT&amp;T</td>
<td>15.6m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verizon</td>
<td>7.0m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Broadband subscribers at the end of Q3 2016

* minority interest
** AT&T’s acquisition of Time Warner is still subject to regulatory approval;
  Verizon’s acquisition of Yahoo’s internet business has not been finalized yet

Source: Statista, Leichtman Research Group
CURRENT FCC HAS LIMITED NET NEUTRALITY

• But states are passing legislation:

• Five state governors signed declarations keeping net neutrality in their states

• 23 state legislatures are considering legislation protecting net neutrality