



## OTI Urges Clean Markup of the Save the Internet Act

OTI strongly supports the Save the Internet Act (H.R. 1644), which reinstates the 2015 net neutrality rules that the FCC repealed over the objections of the American people and Members of Congress. This legislation is well-crafted and urgently needed; Congress should pass it without amendment and without delay.

### Reject Amendments that Leave Rural Americans Behind

- ➔ Every American deserves net neutrality—not just those who subscribe to the nation’s largest ISPs. Amendments that carve out “small ISP” loopholes would leave rural Americans behind.
- ➔ OTI opposes any amendment that exempts small ISPs from net neutrality rules. Such amendments may purport to help “small businesses,” but in reality they would only help the nation’s largest ISPs and harm people in rural areas.
- ➔ Small ISPs disproportionately serve rural America, and many of them asked the FCC to restore the 2015 net neutrality rules. They do not want or need an exemption.

### Reject Overbroad Amendments that Cripple the FCC

- ➔ OTI opposes overbroad amendments that purport to ban the FCC’s “rate regulation” authority. The bill already incorporates the FCC’s 2015 forbearance of rate regulation. Further amendments could eliminate the FCC’s ability to address *any* consumer harm that affects price, such as abusive fees and zero-rating schemes.
- ➔ OTI opposes overbroad amendments that jeopardize the Lifeline program. Altering the FCC’s 2015 order could undercut the legal authority that the FCC used in 2016 to expand low-income subsidies for broadband service.
- ➔ Performing legislative surgery on the 2015 rules via amendment is highly inadvisable. Such amendments would inject uncertainty into the FCC’s legal authority and invite a raft of industry-led lawsuits that mire the agency in litigation.

### Reject ‘Delay & Distract’ Amendments

- ➔ OTI opposes any amendment to delay implementation of the bill. Nothing about net neutrality requires delay. The urgency of this issue was vividly demonstrated last year, when Verizon throttled firefighters responding to California’s deadly wildfires. Due to the net neutrality repeal, the FCC had no oversight and the firefighters were forced to plea for help in the press. They need net neutrality restored before wildfire season starts anew.
- ➔ OTI opposes amendments that would drag Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act into this bill. This law has nothing to do with net neutrality. Amendments to weaken Section 230 are designed to distract and would not help consumers.
- ➔ OTI supports Congress’ efforts to develop comprehensive privacy legislation, but H.R. 1644 is not the vehicle to address those concerns. H.R. 1644 is an appropriately narrow and carefully calibrated bill that needs to be passed without distraction or delay.