



HR0874

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, High-speed Internet access service, referred to
3 generically as "broadband advanced communication services,"
4 including both wired and wireless technologies, is essential in
5 the 21st century for economic competitiveness and quality of
6 life; and

7 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois relies on broadband services
8 to communicate with constituents, to enable city residents to
9 interact with city services, and to permit voters to monitor
10 and communicate with elected city leaders and appointed
11 officials; and

12 WHEREAS, Broadband infrastructure is vital to the
13 operation and management of other critical infrastructures,
14 including energy generation systems, the power grid, water
15 supply systems, smart cities, the Internet of Things, public
16 safety and emergency response systems, medical facilities,
17 educational institutions, and libraries; and

18 WHEREAS, Studies confirm that open Internet policies lead
19 to increases in market-driven broadband deployment through the
20 virtuous cycle; open Internet spurs innovation by users and
21 online service providers, which increases the demand for
22 broadband capacity, thus spurring more broadband

1 infrastructure deployment, which in turn promotes additional
2 innovation by users and service providers; and

3 WHEREAS, The provision and maintenance of equitable access
4 to technology, broadband Internet access services, digital
5 content, and classroom management tools are necessary for all
6 students, teachers, and school administrators in Illinois in
7 order to provide equal educational resources to all students at
8 all education levels; and

9 WHEREAS, The Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
10 adopted open Internet rules on February 26, 2015 to protect
11 free expression and innovation on the Internet and to promote
12 investment in the nation's broadband networks; and

13 WHEREAS, Those open Internet rules ensure that consumers
14 and businesses have access to a fast, fair, and open Internet
15 by imposing three bright-line rules: (1) Broadband providers
16 shall not block access to lawful content, applications,
17 services, or nonharmful devices, (2) Broadband providers shall
18 not impair or degrade lawful Internet traffic on the basis of
19 content, application, or service, or use of a nonharmful
20 device, and (3) Broadband providers shall not favor some lawful
21 Internet traffic over other lawful Internet traffic in exchange
22 for consideration of any kind; and

1 WHEREAS, Elimination of open Internet protections for
2 consumers dampens the incentive for ISPs to increase broadband
3 capacity at lower cost and increases the likelihood that ISPs
4 will charge both consumers and content providers for
5 transmission; and

6 WHEREAS, Because the Internet must be a place in which
7 companies, large and small, as well as individual developers,
8 can compete on a level playing field, the State of Illinois
9 supports net neutrality as a principle that underpins a fast,
10 fair, and open Internet for consumers and businesses to ensure
11 equal access to lawful content by prohibiting paid
12 prioritization, throttling, and blocking; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
14 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that the
15 State of Illinois respectfully urges the President of the
16 United States and Members of the United States Congress, and
17 all relevant federal offices to continue to protect net
18 neutrality and open Internet access.