



SR1196

LRB100 16191 ALS 31312 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Net neutrality is the Internet's guiding
3 principle because it preserves the rights of consumers to
4 communicate freely online; and

5 WHEREAS, Access to an open Internet gives individuals,
6 associations, investors, and entrepreneurs the power to run
7 small businesses, contribute to the marketplace of ideas,
8 partake in civic engagement, and exercise freedom of speech;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, The United States of America has had and embraced
11 net neutrality since the creation of the Internet; our nation
12 passed formal net neutrality rules in 2015 to codify the manner
13 in which United States citizens have utilized online services
14 and to protect the individual freedoms and right to information
15 of the residents of Illinois; and

16 WHEREAS, Net neutrality perpetuates the way we use the
17 Internet by prohibiting big utility companies from slowing
18 down, blocking, or charging websites and applications United
19 States citizens want to use; and

20 WHEREAS, Those open Internet rules ensure that consumers
21 and businesses have access to a fast, fair, and open Internet

1 by ensuring that broadband providers shall not block access to
2 lawful content, applications, services, or non-harmful
3 devices; broadband providers shall not impair or degrade lawful
4 Internet traffic on the basis of content, application, or
5 service, or use of non-harmful devices; and broadband providers
6 shall not favor some lawful Internet traffic over other lawful
7 Internet traffic in exchange for consideration of any kind; and

8 WHEREAS, Without net neutrality, cable and phone companies
9 could carve the Internet into fast and slow lanes, where a
10 company could slow down the content of its competitors or block
11 political opinions it disagreed with; and

12 WHEREAS, Internet companies could charge extra fees to the
13 few content companies that could afford to pay for preferential
14 treatment, relegating Illinois residents to a slower tier of
15 service; and

16 WHEREAS, Because the Internet must be a place where
17 companies large and small, as well as individual developers,
18 can compete on a level playing field, the Illinois General
19 Assembly supports net neutrality as a principle that underpins
20 a fast, fair, and open Internet for consumers and businesses to
21 ensure equal access to lawful content by prohibiting paid
22 prioritization, throttling, and blocking; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that the Illinois State
3 Senate urges the United States Congress and President Trump's
4 administration to advocate for the permanent adoption of net
5 neutrality rules that keep the Internet free and open, allowing
6 all of us to share and access information of our choosing
7 without interference from big utility companies; and be it
8 further

9 RESOLVED, That a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution
10 be presented to the President of the United States, to all
11 members of the United States Senate, to all members of the
12 United States House of Representatives, to all members of the
13 Illinois General Assembly, and to the Governor of the State of
14 Illinois.