

Education, Library and Rural Briefing on CRA / Net Neutrality
Quotes from Briefing Participants

American Library Association (ALA)

The following quote can be attributed to Larra Clark, Deputy Director, American Library Association Office for Information:

“Strong, enforceable network neutrality protections are essential to ensuring open and nondiscriminatory access to information for all, and that is a vital concern for our nation’s libraries. The internet is the dominant communications platform of our day, and it is especially important that commercial Internet Service Providers are not able to control or manipulate the content of these communications. A world in which libraries and other noncommercial enterprises are limited to the Internet’s “slow lanes” while HD movies can obtain preferential treatment undermines a central priority for a democratic society: citizens must be able to inform themselves and each other just as effectively as the major commercial and media interests can inform them. We strenuously disagree with the FCC’s recent moves to dismantle net neutrality and urge lawmakers to pass the resolution of disapproval and restore the vital bipartisan principles for strong net neutrality.”

Association of Research Libraries (ARL)

The following quote can be attributed to Krista L. Cox, Director of Public Policy Initiatives, Association of Research Libraries:

“Maintaining an open Internet is central to the non-profit mission of research libraries which undertake cutting edge research and build the information platforms that are, in turn, building blocks for other innovations that reverberate throughout the public and private sectors. Research libraries provide access to vast datasets, preserve and share our nation’s culture, facilitate discovery, support distance learning and participate in a wide range of other activities that depend on strong net neutrality rules—including no blocking, no throttling and no paid prioritization—in order to succeed.”

Center for Rural Strategies

The following quote can be attributed to Marty Newell, Coordinator, Rural Broadband Policy Group:

“Rural America faces connectivity challenges around both access and affordability not unlike those we faced with telephony and electricity in the past. An open internet ensures a fair shake for entrepreneurs, farmers, small internet service providers, and others in rural communities.”

Consortium for School Network (CoSN)

The follow quote can be attributed to Keith Krueger, CEO of the Consortium for School Networking (CoSN):

“Students and teachers were clearly not considered by the FCC when they eliminated net neutrality rules. With no net neutrality guardrails to protect school districts from higher prices, slower connectivity and less innovation, educators will have police bad behavior of their Internet carriers - even those from small, rural systems with little technical expertise. The U.S. Senate needs to pass the Markey resolution so that our students have the unfettered broadband access they deserve.”

The State Education Technology Directors Association (SETDA)

The follow quote can be attributed Tracy Weeks ,Director of The State Educational Technology Directors Association (SETDA):

“Many parts of the country are still striving to gain access to high quality broadband. While they work to attain the level of connectivity needed to provide all students with access to high quality content, instruction, and applications, they need to know that all of these needed resources will be delivered in a cost effective and reliable manner. Without net neutrality protections in place, the gaps between the schools who have access to resources and those who do not will only widen.”