

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

December 21, 2017

The Honorable Pam Bondi  
Attorney General of the State of Florida  
The Capitol PL-01  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

RE: Protect Florida Consumers - Join us in the fight for Net Neutrality

Dear Attorney General Bondi:

The decision by the Trump Administration and Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to roll back “net neutrality” consumer protections that ensure an open internet is a severe blow to families and businesses across the State of Florida and our country. As members of the Florida Congressional delegation we were disappointed to see that you were not a co-signatory of a letter sent by 18 state attorneys general<sup>1</sup> that urged the delay of the FCC’s vote on the ‘Restoring Internet Freedom’ proposal, also known as net neutrality rollback, WC Docket No. 17- 108.<sup>2</sup> Many states are considering a multistate lawsuit questioning the legality of this action, and we write to encourage you to join in that challenge.

As you know, the net neutrality rules were enacted in 2015 to ensure an open and free internet and to prevent broadband providers from blocking, slowing down, or charging more for websites Floridians and indeed all Americans want to visit. Overturning the open internet rule likely will lead to higher costs and a degraded online experience for Florida small businesses, startups, families, and individuals. In the same order, the FCC also willfully tied the hands of states and localities to protect their own residents by claiming broad power to preempt state and local laws. We encourage you to examine ways to challenge the FCC decision and to protect Florida consumers like other attorneys general around the country.

We support an open and free internet and firmly believe it is important to protect the access, innovation, and opportunity that net neutrality represents. We back federal legislation to restore net neutrality protections. Because that effort may take time and consumers could be harmed in the interim, we also encourage action to protect consumers from adverse effects stemming from the FCC’s action, including higher fees and restricted access. We look forward to

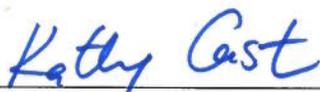
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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.doj.state.or.us/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/ag\\_letter\\_12-13-2017.pdf](https://www.doj.state.or.us/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/ag_letter_12-13-2017.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily\\_Releases/Daily\\_Business/2017/db1122/DOC-347927A1.pdf](http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2017/db1122/DOC-347927A1.pdf)

working together to protect Floridians, and encourage you to report back swiftly on a plan of action on the state level. Thank you. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact Kevin Karpay, Sr Legislative Aide to U.S. Rep. Kathy Castor at 202-225-3376.

Sincerely,



Kathy Castor  
Member of Congress



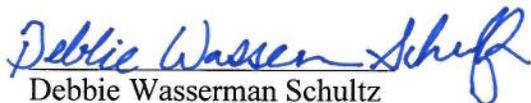
Darren Soto  
Member of Congress



Charlie Crist  
Member of Congress



Ted Deutch  
Member of Congress



Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
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