



Statements of Support

Ad Hoc Telecommunications Users Committee

“Members of the Ad Hoc Telecommunications Users Committee know first hand the high price of a non-competitive broadband market. Today, the vast majority of American business locations are at the mercy of incumbent monopoly broadband providers who exploit their market power by charging exorbitant prices for the dedicated broadband links on which businesses depend. This issue is everywhere: we depend on these broadband lines more than ever before - to connect our offices and manufacturing facilities, manage inventory and suppliers, reach nationwide and worldwide networks, including the Internet, and conduct even the most mundane economic activities like processing credit/debit card payments and operating ATMs. This broken market has been operating below the radar for too long, steadily eating away at every business’s bottom line. But now, after years of work, the FCC is finally poised to restore competitive pricing to this economic input and we stand ready with the members of Competify to see this effort cross the finish line.”

BT

“BT is a global company operating in 170 countries around the world, so we’ve witnessed first-hand the positive impact that competition can have on broadband deployment, innovation, jobs, and growth. In the U.S., however, a few providers use their dominance to control broadband access and overcharge, with consumers, businesses, and the entire American broadband economy paying the price. The time has come for action. We’re proud to join Competify and support the FCC’s efforts to ensure a fair deal for all who rely on reasonably priced broadband Internet services.”

COMPTEL

“COMPTEL, the competitive network association, is the leading advocate for more choice and more competition in the communications industry. Businesses and consumers are the ultimate winners in a competitive environment that fosters innovation, investment and affordable broadband services. But the future of investment in our new networks is at risk because of a few large broadband gatekeepers. That is why COMPTEL is proud to stand with Competify and work to secure a competitive broadband future that benefits all American businesses and consumers. This is an issue that impacts every aspect of the broadband economy from mobile communications, ecommerce, schools and government services.”

Engine

"In the past year, the FCC has done much to ensure that the Internet remains open and accessible to the startups that have historically driven the growth of the Internet and the economy alike. But, in order to keep our innovation economy humming, the FCC needs to do more to address the biggest failure of US telecom policy: a stunning lack of competition and choice in broadband markets. Innovators need access to the faster and more affordable networks that only increased competition can provide. Better networks drive consumer demand for more startup services, bring investment to the sector, and open up entirely new industries. At the same time these networks lower the costs of launching businesses, which will lead to a cycle of more startups, more jobs, and more innovation. We're asking the FCC to Try Competify to finish the job it has so admirably taken on of building a robust, competitive Internet economy."

Level 3

Joe Cavender, vice president and assistant general counsel, federal affairs at Level 3:

"Level 3 commends FCC Chairman Wheeler's plan to preserve broadband competition as the old monopoly telephone companies transition their networks to modern IP technology. Level 3 has been a leader in delivering IP-based services, and our customers appreciate the power and value of what we provide. Chairman Wheeler's proposal will help ensure that the network transition won't leave customers behind. It's an important step in promoting broadband choice."

Public Knowledge

"Americans need access to better, faster and cheaper broadband, but a lack of competition in the market is holding them hostage. We're proud to join Competify and urge the FCC to stop these Internet gatekeepers from driving up prices and stalling investment and innovation in the communities that need it most. Even Republican FCC Commissioner Ajit Pai has conceded that: 'When it comes to broadband, Americans want more competition, faster speeds, and lower prices.'

"When even Chairman Wheeler's fiercest Republican critics concede that Americans don't have the competition they want to give us the speeds we need at prices we can afford, it's time to step up and take action. We won't get the competition that drives down prices and drives up speeds by sitting around and complaining about it. We know where the chokepoints are. We know how the gatekeepers work. It's time to say no to chokepoints, no to gatekeepers, and yes to real competition. In other words, it's time to Competify."

Sprint

"The FCC has recognized that broadband competition, innovation, and choice are critical to our economy. The time has now come for federal regulators to take concrete action to inject real competition into the broadband marketplace and ensure that consumers, businesses,

education, health care, and the economy as a whole, have access to the broadband connections they need at just and reasonable rates. The FCC has the data necessary to act and should do so with urgency. Now is the time to Competify!"