



1200 G Street, NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC 20005 • 202-296-6650 • [www.comptel.org](http://www.comptel.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 21, 2015

**MEDIA CONTACT**

Gail Norris  
202-296-6650  
[gnorris@comptel.org](mailto:gnorris@comptel.org)

**Bipartisan Support for Open Internet Unscores Need for Strong  
Policy Actions to Prevent Blocking, Discrimination**

***COMPTTEL Comments on Results of IFBA Open Internet Survey***

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – This morning the [Internet Freedom Business Alliance](#) reported results of a nationwide [Open Internet survey](#), which showed that concerns about monopoly control and content restrictions are of concern to both conservatives and liberals alike. The poll found that 81 percent of all voters, including Republicans, support an open Internet and endorse the key elements of net neutrality rules.

The following statement can be attributed to Chip Pickering, CEO of COMPTTEL, the leading trade association for the competitive communications industry:

*“While inside the beltway, many like to divide opinions on the open Internet down party lines, the IFBA’s poll confirms that across the country, a majority of citizens – whether they’re Republican or Democrat, conservative or liberal – are concerned about the power dominant incumbents can wield over the Internet.*

*There is a bipartisan belief that consumers need to be protected from anticompetitive practices, and be assured that no one Internet provider can influence or impede content as Internet service providers. We have already seen examples of how such providers have used their market power to block or throttle access to content or extract access tolls so content is delivered. These actions have made it clear that strong rules are essential to maintaining an open Internet and ensuring that our nation has functioning, competitive free markets.”*

\*\*\*\*\*

**About COMPTTEL**

Based in Washington, D.C., COMPTTEL is the leading industry association representing competitive communications service providers and their supplier partners. COMPTTEL members are entrepreneurial companies driving technological innovation and creating economic growth through competitive voice, video, and data offerings and the development and deployment of next-generation, IP-based networks and services. COMPTTEL advances its members’ interests through trade shows, networking, education, and policy advocacy before Congress, the Federal Communications Commission and the courts. COMPTTEL works to ensure that competitive communications providers can continue to offer lower prices, better service, and greater innovation to consumers. For more information, visit [www.comptel.org](http://www.comptel.org) or follow us on Twitter @COMPTTEL.