

## **COMPTEL Statement on Denial of Open Internet Stay Request**

WASHINGTON DC (June 11, 2015) – This afternoon, the DC Circuit Court denied the open Internet stay request put forward by opponents of the action taken by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) earlier this year.

In response, **Chip Pickering, the CEO of COMPTEL and a former Republican Member of Congress from Mississippi** who supports the FCC Open Internet rule, released the following statement:

“Today’s decision by the court to deny the stay request of the FCC’s open Internet rule sends a message of full steam ahead for consumers, start-ups and new network builders.

“The court’s decision reaffirms the Federal Communications Commission and Chairman Tom Wheeler’s light-touch approach to deliver the strongest possible protections. We are already seeing the results in the marketplace, as interconnection agreements move forward, helping to deliver more content at a faster rate.

“The stay request was simply a delay tactic by Internet gatekeepers that seek to control, block and assign new fees for Internet access. While we remain vigilant in the fight against future threats to open Internet protections, we are encouraged by today’s court decision, and stand ready to oppose those seeking to pull up the tracks on Internet access, innovation, and exploration.”

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### **About COMPTEL**

Based in Washington, D.C., COMPTEL is the leading industry association representing competitive networks. COMPTEL 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. COMPTEL advances its members’ interests through trade shows, networking, education, and policy advocacy before Congress, the Federal Communications Commission and the courts. COMPTEL 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 @COMPTEL on Twitter.