



For Immediate Release

INCOMPAS Applauds Bold Action on Net Neutrality by Congressman Mike Coffman (R-CO)

Praise for Rep. Coffman's '21st Century Internet Act' and Signing of CRA Discharge Petition

*****Other company quotes included below*****

WASHINGTON, D.C. (July 17, 2018) – Today, Representative Mike Coffman (R-CO) introduced the '21st Century Internet Act' that would codify into law the Net Neutrality principles of no blocking, no throttling, no paid prioritization, and strong interconnection.

During an event hosted by INCOMPAS and Engine, Rep. Coffman also announced he would be signing the discharge petition currently in the House of Representatives that seeks to reverse the Federal Communication Commission's repeal of net neutrality last year.

INCOMPAS CEO Chip Pickering released the following statement in support of Congressman Coffman's actions:

"Congressman Coffman's bold net neutrality action is welcome news to streamers and millennial dreamers who want to start a business online.

"By standing with an overwhelming 80 percent of Americans who want bipartisan net neutrality policy back on the books, Rep. Coffman's legislation prevents blocking, throttling and paid prioritization, while making it clear interconnection is a vital piece of the streaming revolution and key to cloud competition. In signing the CRA discharge petition, Rep. Coffman joins key Republicans in the Senate who believe we must save net neutrality now and continue to defend it on all fronts."

Other companies also expressed their support of the legislation:

David Schaefer, CEO, Cogent:

"Network growth depends on access to an open internet with strong interconnection policies that encourage competition, investment, and innovation. Congressman Coffman's legislation highlights the critical role interconnection plays in the health of our internet economy, and we commend him for his leadership and lend our voice of support to his bill."

Greg, Green, CEO of Fatbeam:

"Small ISPs benefit from a healthy, robust, and open internet ecosystem. Representative Coffman's legislation is pro-competition and will help ensure schools, libraries, hospitals, and small businesses have equal access to the internet allowing them to connect to their consumers, as well as content, applications and services around the globe without undue interference."

(more)

Karyn Smith, General Counsel, Twilio:

“Congressman Coffman has prioritized American consumers and the health of the innovation economy over partisan politics by introducing legislation to protect internet openness. Preserving access to an open internet through common sense rules is of paramount importance to maintaining competition and fostering innovation. Twilio salutes the Congressman’s efforts to restore basic ground rules and a transparent process to enforce them. Twilio looks forward to working with Congress, the FCC, and the FTC on measures that provide greater transparency and certainty in communications.”

Michael Cheah, General Counsel, Vimeo:

“Streaming technology has made it possible for video creators, small and large, to stream their content directly to their audiences. Net neutrality ensures that creators can focus on investing in content that their audiences want—not arbitrary pay-to-play fees charged by gatekeeper ISPs. Congressman Coffman’s proposed legislation recognizes this and helps protect the next generation of creators and streaming startups.”

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About INCOMPAS

INCOMPAS, the internet and competitive networks association, is the leading trade group advocating for competition policy across all networks. INCOMPAS represents Internet, streaming, communications and technology companies large and small, advocating for laws and policies that promote competition, innovation and economic development. Learn more at www.incompas.org or follow us on Twitter: @INCOMPAS @ChipPickering