

To: The OLA Executive Board

From: The OLA Intellectual Freedom Committee

RE: Net neutrality statement

Below is the net neutrality statement that the Intellectual Freedom and Legislative Committees would like the board to review and consider adopting at the August 21 board meeting.

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The Oregon Library Association believes that preserving an open Internet is essential to our nation's freedom of speech, educational achievement, and economic growth. Oregon libraries are leaders in providing Internet access within their communities and are committed to ensuring people who use the Internet have equal access to online information and services. Allowing commercial entities to prioritize some Internet traffic and/or block other traffic based on commercial interest is not in the public interest. The Oregon Library Association strongly supports the FCC's adoption of enforceable policies based on the [Net Neutrality Principles](#) provided by the American Library Association and other organizations. These include:

- **Protect Against Unreasonable Discrimination:** Every person in the United States should be able to access legal content, applications, and services over the Internet.
- **Prohibit Paid Prioritization:** Public broadband providers and ISPs should not be permitted to sell prioritized transmission to certain content, applications, and service providers over other Internet traffic sharing the same network facilities.
- **Provide Transparency:** Public broadband network operators and ISPs should disclose network management practices publicly.
- **Adopt Enforceable Policies:** Policies and rules to enforce these principles should be clearly stated and transparent.

The Oregon Library Association supports these and the other principles of net neutrality because an open Internet is essential for an informed public and a healthy democracy.