



Resolution

Commending the FCC on Internet Restraint and Urging the Congress to Foster Free Expression on the Internet

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- WHEREAS** The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in issuing its Restoring Internet Freedom order, effective June 11, 2018, exercised restraint in refusing to create a heavy-handed, big government solution in protecting the vitality of the Internet, but instead opted for a light-touch approach which has, yet again, recently been affirmed by the U.S. Court of Appeals;
- WHEREAS** The FCC in that same order recognized the risk of suppression of legitimate free expression by “social media” platforms and other similar market-dominant internet platforms, and listed numerous examples in that order;
- WHEREAS** Congress has held hearings on the problem of viewpoint censorship by large Internet platforms and is the appropriate body to consider legislation that encourages such large platforms to aspire to free speech practices that more closely mirror the values embodied in the First Amendment as they formulate their free market policies;
- WHEREAS** NRB’s members, as Christian communicators, require access to Internet platforms in order to provide Biblical content and Gospel-oriented messages in order to compete in the “marketplace of ideas” and to pursue the Great Commission;
- NOW
THEREFORE** NRB commends the Federal Communications Commission for its restraint in avoiding a heavy-handed regulatory approach to the Internet, while also documenting the threat to free expression; NRB further urges the Congress to consider legislation that properly balances the free market power of large Internet platforms with the free expression needs of American Internet users.