



OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

August 27, 2014

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
United States Senate  
437 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Leahy:

Thank you for your letter encouraging the Commission to hold Open Internet roundtables across the country in order to ensure that Americans have a meaningful opportunity to participate in the debate about this very important issue.

The Commission announced on August 8, 2014, that it will host a series of Open Internet roundtable discussions in Washington, D.C., beginning in September of this year. The roundtables will provide an opportunity for Commission staff and other interested parties to have an open discussion about how the Commission can best accomplish its goal of protecting and promoting Internet openness. They will be open to the public, streamed live online, and both online viewers and those who attend the roundtables in person will have the opportunity to ask questions of Commission staff and other participants.

Over the past two months, I have engaged actively with the public to hear their views about the Commission's *Open Internet Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*. I have met with innovators, investors, and start-ups in Silicon Valley, spoken with consumer groups and public interest leaders while in San Francisco, California, and participated in a community forum in Albuquerque, New Mexico. One of my staff, Gigi Sohn, held a Twitter town hall at Twitter headquarters in New York City to encourage the public to submit comments to be included in the record of the Commission's *Open Internet* proceeding, of which – after extending the comment period – we have received well over one million. The roundtables announced this month are a continuation of my efforts to engage with all parties to hear their important views about keeping the Internet open.

While my schedule for this fall has not yet been finalized, I look forward to keeping you apprised of the Commission's Open Internet outreach efforts. I welcome any additional input you may care to share and once again thank you for being in touch with me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Tom Wheeler", is positioned above the printed name.

Tom Wheeler