



February 22, 2018

ATTORNEY GENERAL MADIGAN FILES LAWSUIT TO STOP ILLEGAL ROLLBACK OF NET NEUTRALITY***Madigan & 22 Attorneys General Fight to Protect Rule Set to End April 23***

Chicago — Attorney General Lisa Madigan and 22 other attorneys general today filed a multistate lawsuit to block the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) illegal rollback of net neutrality rules after the FCC officially published its so-called *Restoring Internet Freedom Order*, effectively killing net neutrality on April 23.

The attorneys general re-filed their petition today in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit against the FCC and the federal government after the FCC moved to dismiss a protective petition previously filed by the states on Jan. 16.

"I will continue to fight to protect net neutrality from the FCC's ill-advised attempt to put corporations ahead of the American public's right to access free information," Madigan said. "We won't allow this administration to control what Americans view and access online."

The repeal of net neutrality would have dire consequences for consumers and businesses in Illinois and across the country that rely on a free and open internet - allowing internet service providers to block and slow the quality of certain content and charge consumers to access certain sites.

In December 2017, Madigan and a coalition of attorneys general urged the FCC to delay its vote in light of widespread reports that millions of comments regarding net neutrality were submitted under fraudulent or stolen identities. Madigan and the coalition stressed the importance of public participation and encouraged the FCC to cooperate with investigations by law enforcement agencies. Madigan also called on the FBI to investigate the sources of the fraudulent comments.

Previously, in July 2017, Madigan led a coalition of 14 attorneys general in submitting comments to the FCC opposing the proposed rollback of the critical net neutrality protections. Madigan argued that the FCC must ensure open access to the internet and the continued equal access to all content providers, which can only be upheld through the principles of an open internet.

Joining Madigan in filing the lawsuit are the attorneys general of California, Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Mexico, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, and Washington.

A copy of the filing can be found [here](#).

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