Sixty-Second Legislative Council

of the

Associated Students

Begun and held at the University of California at Santa Barbara, in the City of Santa Barbara on the twenty-eighth of September, two thousand eleven, in the sixty-second year of our association.

A Bill

To Support Network Neutrality

Whereas: Freedom, Equality, and Democracy are values of the UCSB Associated Students

Whereas: The Internet allows people the ability to empower themselves by having access to unfiltered information and share their own views with the rest of the world.

Whereas: This enables a stronger democracy.

Whereas: Currently all people who have Internet service, through public or private computers, have access to the same websites as all other users at the same speed, regardless of their financial status.

Whereas: Currently all websites have no advantages over one another based on their ability to pay Internet service providers (ISPs).

Whereas: A tiered Internet access system is inherently undemocratic, discriminatory based on class, and obstructs freedom of speech, expression, and press to users of the Internet.

Whereas: The internet is the last medium in which all users have equal access to each other and every user may produce and distribute content. Television, newspaper and radio have become too expensive over the past century to use for distribution of information, restricting the voice of the common individual.

Whereas: The regarded "father of the internet" Vinton Cerf and the co-inventor of the World Wide Web Tim Berners-Lee have openly stated support of Network Neutrality.

Therefore let it be resolved by the Associated Students in the Legislative Council assembled: Supports the concept of Network Neutrality and State and Federal legal mandates to ensure it.

Harrison Weber President of Associated Students

CC:

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