



May 2, 2006

The Honorable Olympia Snowe
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Byron Dorgan
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Snowe and Senator Dorgan,

EDUCAUSE and Internet2 would like to express our support for the “Internet Neutrality Act” that you have introduced. We are pleased that this legislation strives to protect the openness of the Internet that is so vital for our mission of promoting educational opportunity for all Americans. The Internet has become the most valuable medium for distance learning, scientific research, telemedicine, and many other educational purposes. Broadband Internet service allows rural students to take music classes from the best symphony conductors, permits grammar school students to participate in virtual undersea expeditions, and permits doctors in remote locations to share X-rays and monitor their patients in real-time.

But the Internet can only serve these goals if it remains open and available to all users, educators and innovators. Your legislation ensures that network operators do not act as gatekeepers by blocking, screening or discriminating against certain kinds of traffic. This bill is an important step toward guaranteeing that the Internet will remain open and available to all Americans. We appreciate your efforts and we look forward to working with you and Members on both sides of the aisle on this issue in the coming months.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Brian L. Hawkins'.

Brian Hawkins, President
EDUCAUSE

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Douglas P. V. Houweling'.

Doug Van Houweling, President and CEO
Internet2