



Job Growth... or Net Neutrality

*“Heavy-handed legislation promoting so-called ‘net neutrality’ would dampen investment and foreclose many consumer benefits. **Such policies would delay job-creating high-speed network deployment to the home** by denying carriers the ability to recover some of their investment from providers of bandwidth-intensive applications.”*

*Communications Workers of America letter to Congress
June 19, 2006*

With its 700,000 members, the Communications Workers of America is the country’s preeminent spokesman for union jobs in the telecom industry. Its members are literally on the front lines of the telecommunications revolution: linking fiber optic networks, monitoring data and handling consumer needs.

So when CWA warns that so-called neutrality regulation would impact job growth, policymakers should listen.

Broadband providers will invest about \$24 billion this year alone in vital network improvements. That creates and sustains thousands of union jobs. But more is needed, especially to bring high-speed choices to rural and underserved Americans.

As CWA states:

The goal of protecting and preserving open networks cannot be separated from the goal of developing affordable, universally available high capacity networks. Open networks are meaningless if only some Americans can access and afford them. In addition [Congressional policy towards the Internet] must acknowledge the need for “reasonable network management” to ensure that network operators are allowed to manage their networks efficiently, even as we ensure that they do not block, degrade, or unreasonably favor content....”

-- Communications Workers of America letter to Congress, April 4, 2008