



How Title II Strengthens National Security and Public Safety

Reclassifying internet access as a Title II service provides the Federal Communications Commission the regulatory authority needed to implement critical measures for the enhancement of national security and public safety. Title II empowers the agency to ensure a more dependable, secure, and responsive internet landscape. In short, **Title II reclassification effectively strengthens the nation's digital infrastructure, fortifies emergency response capabilities, and safeguards against foreign interference.**

Internet Outage Oversight:

Title II reclassification gives the FCC the authority to require broadband providers to report and promptly address internet outages, mirroring the oversight mechanism already in place for voice services. This will ensure a more consistent, reliable, and resilient communications infrastructure, which is especially crucial during times of disasters. By holding broadband providers accountable for outage reporting and swift resolution, this oversight mechanism helps maintain uninterrupted connectivity for public services and emergency responders.

Enhanced Emergency Response:

Reliable communication is the cornerstone of effective emergency response. With Title II reclassification in place, the FCC can better facilitate this by providing essential information about internet service disruptions to response personnel, particularly during critical incidents. This real-time data equips first responders, public safety officials, and emergency management teams with the knowledge they need to make informed decisions and allocate resources efficiently. In the context of natural disasters, public health crises, or other emergencies, the ability to understand and mitigate service disruptions can save lives and minimize damages.

Security Against Foreign Influence:

Another pivotal aspect of reclassifying internet access under Title II is the FCC's newfound capacity to deny access to broadband networks for companies controlled by hostile foreign governments. This security measure significantly strengthens national security interests. By preventing such companies from participating in or influencing the nation's broadband infrastructure, we reduce the risks of cyberattacks, data breaches, and espionage. This proactive stance is a vital safeguard for protecting critical infrastructure, sensitive data, and national interests from external threats.

Promoting a Resilient Digital Ecosystem:

Beyond emergency situations, Title II reclassification also promotes the overall resilience of our digital ecosystem. It allows the FCC to set minimum standards for investment in network infrastructure, cybersecurity measures, and outage prevention strategies. This, in turn, benefits not only consumers but also businesses, educational institutions, healthcare providers, and government agencies that rely on uninterrupted internet access for their daily operations.