

A Series of Tubes

A series of tubes" is a phrase coined originally as an analogy by then-United States Senator Ted Stevens a Republican from Alaska, to describe the Internet in the context of opposing **Network Neutrality**. On June 28, 2006, he used this metaphor to criticize a proposed amendment to a committee bill. The amendment would have prohibited Internet service providers such as AT&T, Comcast, Time Warner Cable and Verizon Communications from charging fees to give some companies' data a higher priority in relation to other traffic. The metaphor has been widely ridiculed, particularly because Stevens displayed an extremely limited understanding of the Internet, even though he was in charge of the Senate committee with the responsibility for regulating it.

The sad reality:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f99PcP0aFNE>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L11kLmWha6o>

The satire:

<http://www.cc.com/video-clips/uo1ore/the-daily-show-with-jon-stewart-headlines---internet>

<http://www.cc.com/video-clips/4arc5x/the-daily-show-with-jon-stewart-net-neutrality-act>

<http://www.cc.com/video-clips/blvwyz/the-daily-show-with-jon-stewart-from-here-to-neutrality>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fpbOEoRrHyU>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hkjkQ-wCZ5A>