

By Senator Posey

24-1391-04

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Senate Memorial No. \_\_\_\_

A memorial to the Congress of the United States, urging Congress to enact a permanent ban on Internet access taxes.

WHEREAS, in 1998 and in 2001, Congress enacted the Internet Tax Freedom Act in order to protect consumers that use the Internet and encourage more individuals to access the Internet, and

WHEREAS, the legislation eliminated taxes on Internet access, double-taxation of a product or service bought over the Internet, and discriminatory taxes that treated Internet purchases differently from other types of sales, and

WHEREAS, the moratorium on Internet access led to the rapid growth of the Internet, which in turn brought good economic news, and

WHEREAS, we live in an age of innovation, where the medium of the Internet is sparking a sharp increase in entrepreneurship and opportunity, the likes of which have not been seen since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution, and

WHEREAS, enacting a tax on Internet access will do significant damage to the United States economy and decrease the standard of living for all Americans, and

WHEREAS, on September 17, 2003, the United States House of Representatives unanimously passed a permanent ban on all Internet access taxes, however, when the bill came to the Senate floor, pro-Internet tax Senators used parliamentary and other underhanded procedural tricks to force supporters of the legislation into negotiations, and

1           WHEREAS, opponents of a tax-free Internet used the  
2 negotiations to stall and stop final passage of a permanent  
3 ban on Internet access taxes in order to achieve their true  
4 desire and tax Internet, NOW, THEREFORE,

5  
6 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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8           That the Congress of the United States is requested to  
9 pass a clean, permanent, and technologically neutral extension  
10 of the Internet tax moratorium.

11           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
12 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the  
13 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the  
14 United States House of Representatives, and to each member of  
15 the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.

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