

News Item

Opinion: Corporations are working with the Trump administration to control online speech | Washington Post

By Ron Wyden February 18, 2020

Some of the <u>biggest corporations</u> in the United States are brawling over the future of the law that allows free speech and innovation to thrive online. Under the guise of getting rid of lies and protecting children, they're working with the Trump administration and top Republicans to undermine Americans' rights and give the government unprecedented control over online speech.

Special interests trying to influence federal laws and regulations are nothing new in Washington. Big banks and drug companies have been wildly successful at working the system to discourage competition and stay on top. Occasionally, however, Congress actually passes a law that protects the less powerful elements of our society, the insurgents and the disrupters. That's what it did in 1996 when it passed a law I co-authored called Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act.

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