



Aug. 21, 2018

Honorable Senator Scott Wiener
State Capitol, Room 5100
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB-822 Communications: broadband Internet access service. – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Wiener,

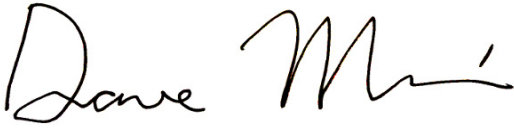
Independent California is a non-profit devoted to policy changes that take California in a more independent direction. I am writing today to express our support for SB 822, which enshrines strong net neutrality standards in state law.

Net neutrality is essential to both California's vibrant civil society and our extraordinarily dynamic tech industry. SB 822's drafting is impressive not just in how comprehensively it addresses the issue, but in its careful use of regulatory authority that unambiguously belongs to the state of California. If, as we hope, this bill passes, California will have done what the federal government cannot: pass a law on the topic of net neutrality.

Industry opponents of the bill have used the canard that protecting net neutrality through our state government would create "a patchwork of conflicting state regulations," and that we should instead wait and hope for a solution from Congress. To this we can only answer that California has more people than Canada (and an economy more than 50% larger). These same interest groups *would not dare* make a similar argument before the Canadian parliament.

Far from creating a “patchwork,” this bill would create good governance for the fifth-largest economy in the world. We hope for its speedy passage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Marin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent "D" and "M".

Dave Marin
Chair of the Board
Independent California
dave.marin@independentca.org