



Telecommunications Industry Association

1320 N. Courthouse Road Suite 200, Arlington, VA 22201

703-907-7700 • tiaonline.org

August 16, 2018

The Honorable Bill Monning
California Senate Majority Leader
State Capitol, Room 313
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Pat Bates
California Senate Minority Leader
State Capitol, Room 305
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Anthony Rendon
California Speaker of the Assembly
State Capitol, Room 219
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Brian Dahle
California Assembly Minority Leader
State Capitol, Suite 3104
Sacramento, CA 94249

Dear Majority Leader Monning, Minority Leader Bates, Speaker Rendon and Minority Leader Dahle:

The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA) opposes the adoption of SB 822 currently pending in the California legislature. As the trade association representing the interests of the information and communication technology industry, TIA supports efforts at the federal level to address net neutrality in a bipartisan fashion, rather than through a patchwork of state laws.

Debate over net neutrality has never been about whether to have an open internet, but rather what regulatory regime can best achieve internet openness while also maintaining the incentives for investment that have made this country's broadband networks the envy of the world.

The right way to ensure a free and open internet, and to support the continued growth of our nation's broadband infrastructure, is for the U.S. Congress to pass genuine bipartisan legislation. National permanent rules would not only remove the uncertainty hanging over consumers, broadband providers, and manufacturers, but also boost new investments, make our networks even faster and more efficient, and help close the digital divide.

TIA's member companies provide the technology necessary to build the networks over which data travels and the devices on which consumers and businesses rely to access and use that information. As such, we strongly support an open internet that enables the free flow of information and commerce that drives our economy. We support policies that encourage innovation and investment in infrastructure and high-tech equipment and that create high-paying manufacturing jobs.



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Unfortunately, SB 822 will not accomplish any of these policy goals. By any measure, California's economy ranks among the global leaders in internet-driven innovation. The vast majority of California's internet-dependent success stories were founded long before the current debate over the Federal Communications Commission's now-defunct 2015 rules – and, equally importantly, were made possible precisely because California *avoided* imposing balkanizing regulatory roadblocks.

We urge you to maintain this foundation for success by opposing SB 822 and look forward to working with you and your colleagues to address this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Rogers", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Cinnamon Rogers
Senior Vice President, Government Affairs
Telecommunications Industry Association

Cc: Members of the California State Senate
Members of the California State Assembly
Diana Dooley, Chief of State, Governor Jerry Brown