



April 16, 2019

The Honorable Miguel Santiago  
Chair, Assembly Communications and Conveyance Committee  
State Capitol, Room 6027  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: AB 1366 (Gonzalez) - SUPPORT - Voice Over Internet Protocol and Internet Protocol Enabled Communication Services**

Dear Chairman Santiago;

On behalf of CTIA, the trade association for the wireless communications industry, we are writing to express our strong support for AB 1366. Since the development of the Internet, the state has maintained a policy of enabling expansion of Internet innovation and opportunity to benefit all Californians and AB 1366 will ensure this continues.

In recent years under this policy:

- 99% of Californians have Internet access<sup>1</sup>
- 46% of farm workers use the Internet to receive information about the Affordable Care Act<sup>2</sup>
- 66% of seniors use the Internet to get health and medical information<sup>3</sup>
- 30% of voter registration by young people is conducted online<sup>4</sup>, and
- 94% of homeless people use a mobile device<sup>5</sup>.

Currently, California faces challenges including public safety, transportation, education, and connecting the most vulnerable in our society. AB 1366 encourages the continued growth of innovative services to address these challenges. Innovation in Internet services is necessary to accelerate civic engagement and the delivery of essential services to address challenges and must be preserved.

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<sup>1</sup> Consumer-Driven Competition in California Communications Market. February 2017. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B5WxjcYwvHSwd1lySmFibEcwQzA/view>

<sup>2</sup> Providing Health Information to Latino Farmworkers: The Case of the Affordable Care Act. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6088234/>

<sup>3</sup> Pew Research Center. Technology use among seniors. May 17, 2017. <https://www.pewinternet.org/2017/05/17/technology-use-among-seniors/>

<sup>4</sup> UC Davis Center for Regional Change. Online Voter Registration: Expanding Access to California's Electoral Process. Policy Brief Issues 11. June 2016. <https://regionalchange.ucdavis.edu/sites/g/files/dgvnsk986/files/inline-files/UC%2BDavis%2BCCEP%2BPolicy%2BBrief%2B11.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> No digital divide? Technology use among homeless adults. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/10530789.2017.1305140>

AB 1366 preserves the Legislature's authority to take future policy actions and steps to enhance consumer protections. AB 1366 maintains all applicable state and federal safeguards relating to public safety, universal services, 911, disabled access, network outages and consumer protection.

This bill also preserves the role of the California Attorney General to enforce all laws and consumer protections pertaining to the Internet, VoIP, and Internet protocol enabled services. AB 1366 empowers the Legislature to take further action to expand digital opportunity to benefit all Californians.

For these reasons, CTIA supports AB 1366.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bethanne Cooley".

Bethanne Cooley  
Senior Director, State Legislative Affairs  
CTIA

CC: Members, Assembly Communications and Conveyance Committee  
The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez  
Edmond Cheung, Consultant  
Daniel Ballon, Assembly Republican Caucus