



CA Alliance for Digital Equity





Mission

Advocating for equitable, affordable access to the connected world.

The California Alliance for Digital Equity (CADE) is a dedicated group of local and statewide advocates focused on digital equity and inclusion, from device acquisition to broadband access to digital literacy to workforce training.

Our legislative, budgetary, and regulatory advocacy addresses all aspects of the digital divide—and we want to work with you.



2023 Priorities



AB 41 (Holden)

The Digital Equity in Video Franchising Act of 2023

AB 286 (Wood)

Broadband Infrastructure Mapping

AB 1588 (Wilson)

The Affordable Internet and Net Equality Act of 2023

AB 41



The Digital Equity in Video Franchising Act of 2023

Author: Assemblymember Chris Holden

There is an urgent need to reform the Digital Infrastructure & Video Competition Act (DIVCA) of 2006. As originally envisioned, DIVCA would increase competition between cable and internet service providers and thereby provide increased broadband access, improved service quality, and reduced prices. After 17 years, the evidence is clear – DIVCA has failed to deliver on these promises.

AB 41, the Digital Equity in Video Franchising Act (DEVFA) of 2023, will comprehensively reform and update DIVCA to meet the needs of all the urban, rural, and tribal communities left on the wrong side of the digital divide. Specifically, this bill revises the cable franchising renewal process, strengthening current equal access, oversight, and anti-discrimination laws which, in turn, will lead to improved broadband access, quality, and pricing.

AB 286

Broadband Infrastructure Mapping

Author: Assemblymember Jim Wood



Publicly available broadband maps fail to fully illustrate the extent of the digital divide because the current maps paint an incomplete picture of access to quality broadband services – millions of Californians are actually underserved. Current law provides an ability for existing providers to overrepresent the depth and breadth of their service territory. Whether it is densely forested areas in rural California or 'digital doughnut holes' in urban California, we know our current mapping system needs to become more detailed and inclusive.

AB 286 improves broadband mapping by requiring more granular data as well as providing more resources to upgrade the publicly available California Interactive Broadband Map. The bill will ensure that household level data on internet speeds, costs, and more is directly shared with the CA Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) which will enhance the mapping process.

AB 1588



The Affordable Internet and Net Equality Act of 2023

Author: Assemblymember Lori Wilson

Millions of Californians lack access to broadband service because they cannot afford it—the cost is just too prohibitive. And California does not have a broadband affordability program to provide assistance to these low-income families similar to those in the electricity and gas sectors.

AB 1588 would create the Net Equality Program, which requires internet service providers (ISPs), that do business with the state, to offer lower-income households an affordable broadband option that meets minimum speed thresholds, a latency that supports distance learning and telehealth services, as well as that provides technical support to facilitate households signups.

Regulatory Engagement



The CA Public Utilities Commission, CA Department of Technology, and many other state agencies are committed to the CA Broadband for All initiative—an effort to bring access to affordable, high-quality internet service to all regions of and communities in our state. Many of the CADE founding partners have been engaged with implementing this initiative even before its official inception.

CADE partners are working closely with the state agencies involved in this effort to increase participation in their public workshops and provide comments to ensure that all voices are heard and that existing funding programs support the CA Broadband for All initiative in the most equitable, effective, and accountable manner.



Broadband for All



Join Us

Add your organization to the growing list of California stakeholders dedicated to equitable access to:



Fast, Reliable, and Affordable Internet



Digital Literacy and Navigation Programs



**Digital Equity Networks and Support
Systems**