



April 11, 2018

The Honorable Scott D. Wiener
Senator, 11th Senate District
State Capitol, Room 5100
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for SB 822 (Wiener)

Dear Senator Wiener,

The undersigned startups, innovators, and entrepreneurship support organizations write to express our strong support of state legislative efforts to reinstate and reinforce net neutrality protections, including Senate Bill 822 by Senator Scott Wiener.

The FCC's December 2017 order repealing its 2015 net neutrality rules was a blow to the country's vibrant and thriving startup ecosystems. Thanks to net neutrality protections—which prohibited Internet service providers (ISPs) from blocking or slowing access to certain websites and online services, or charging those websites and services for better access to users—an entrepreneur with a good idea and an Internet connection could start and grow their company anywhere in the country. The Bay Area, while obviously a leading place for startup growth, doesn't have a monopoly on good ideas and determination, and startup ecosystems are growing across the state, from Siskiyou County to San Diego.

In the wake of the federal repeal, which will leave U.S. Internet users without meaningful net neutrality protections for the first time in a more than a decade, it is critical that states take the lead to craft their own net neutrality rules. Without net neutrality protections, startups will be at the mercy of incumbent ISPs and face insurmountable disadvantages when competing with larger, more established companies that can pay for better access to users.

Senate Bill 822 reinstates the protections in the 2015 order that prohibited blocking, throttling, and charging for better access to users, and, like the 2015 order, it ensures that ISPs can't circumvent those protections by manipulating traffic at interconnection points. The bill also bans ISPs from charging companies to exempt their websites or services from users' data caps, which unfairly tilts the online playing field towards deep-pocketed incumbents.

We urge you to support Senate Bill 822 to reinstate the net neutrality protections that startups have relied on and need to continue being a driving force in California's economic and job growth.

Sincerely,



3scan
San Francisco

8 Circuit Studios
Irvine

Ad Hoc Labs
Los Angeles

AdRoll
San Francisco

Angel Investment Capital
Ventura

appliedVR
Los Angeles

Chute
San Francisco

Climate Solutions Net
Palo Alto

Contextly
San Francisco

Creative Action Network
San Francisco

Degreed
San Francisco

DLT Education
Oakland

DroneTV.com
Los Angeles

Evensi
San Francisco

Founder Academy
West Sacramento

Girl Groove
San Francisco

GitHub
San Francisco

GoGo Technologies
Mountain View

Golden
San Francisco

Gusto
San Francisco

Hackers/Founders
San Jose

Heartwood Studios
San Mateo

HelloSign
San Francisco

High Fidelity
San Francisco

Homebrew
San Francisco

iFixit
San Luis Obispo

Inflect
San Francisco

Kaizena
Palo Alto

Karma+
Oakland

Libib, Inc.
San Jose



LoungeBuddy
San Francisco

Lyft
San Francisco

Mallonee&Associates
Lafayette

Manargy
Redwood City

Medium
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Milo Magnus
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MinOps
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Onfleet
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Patreon
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Point.com
Palo Alto

Reddit
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REELY
Santa Monica

Sonos
Santa Barbara

Starsky Robotics
San Francisco

SV Angel
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Tesorio
Burlingame

The Butcher Shop
Los Angeles

The Monger
Berkeley

The Run Experience
San Francisco

Tostie Productions
San Diego

Twilio
San Francisco

Underdog Media
Santa Barbara

Unwired
Berkeley

Upgraded
Walnut Creek

Venntive
San Francisco

Woopie Media
San Francisco

CC: Members of the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee
Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee