

# YES ON ASSEMBLY BILL 470 (MCKINNOR)

*Let's Modernize State Law to Ensure Reliable, Fast and Affordable Communications For All*

**Assembly Bill 470 will move California forward** by reforming the state's Carrier of Last Resort (COLR) policy to accelerate investments in modern communication technologies.

AS AMENDED 6/19/25

## DISCUSSIONS WITH LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP & STAKEHOLDERS RESULTED IN:

- *The Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), California State Association of Counties (CSAC), and the Urban Counties of California (UCC) have removed their opposition.*
- *The modernization process will be overseen by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) with strong guidelines and guardrails set by the Legislature* to ensure any transition protects consumers and remains timely.
- *California's modern communications expansion efforts will be strengthened*, as any provider seeking amended COLR status must build out advanced fiber optic networks to more residential locations, including in areas that are not "well-served." This ramp up of modern networks will directly connect more Californians to advanced communications technologies.

## ✓ AB 470 WILL MODERNIZE OUR COMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE OVER TIME

- AB 470 requires the CPUC to determine geographic areas classified as "well-served." Modernization will only be permitted in areas that are unpopulated and without customers, or meet the definition of "well-served," meaning:
  - At least three alternative voice services are available, including:
    - At least one alternative must be a wireline provider,
    - At least one alternative must participate in the discounted California Lifeline program,
    - An alternative is available to all broadband-serviceable locations in the area.
- **In populated areas not identified as "well-served," nothing changes, and current law remains in effect.** This provision addresses stakeholder input, ensuring different geographic areas transition at a pace reflecting their unique needs.

## ✓ AB 470 PROVIDES ROBUST CONSUMER PROTECTIONS

- **AB 470 clearly directs the CPUC** to conduct a thorough process to verify access to alternative services and ensure consumers are protected.
- **AB 470 establishes multiple consumer challenge opportunities**, including allowing anyone to dispute a COLR change request, and requires the CPUC to create a public notice process.

## ✓ AB 470 STRENGTHENS PUBLIC SAFETY

- **AB 470 improves and strengthens public safety**, requiring providers to:
  - Ensure no impact on Land Mobile Radio (LMR) systems used by first responders,
  - Fund network transition efforts for public safety agencies, including Tribes, local governments and community organizations,
  - Offer replacement voice service, to the extent technically feasible, that is compatible with home alarm systems, medical alert devices, and point-of-sale terminals.
- **AB 470 incorporates the Office of Emergency Services (Cal EOS)** in the CPUC proceeding to set detailed COLR reform processes for applicants.

## ✓ AB 470 ENSURES VOICE SERVICES REMAIN AFFORDABLE

- Providers must ensure customers have access to voice services at prices comparable to traditional landline service.
- Providers are required to offer an affordable broadband plan to eligible customers.
- The definition of "well-served" includes a requirement that at least one of the providers in well-served areas is a California Lifeline provider.

## ✓ AB 470 PREPARES CALIFORNIA FOR THE FUTURE

- **AB 470 positions the state for long-term connectivity and workforce readiness**, requiring providers to:
  - Expand modern communications access for hundreds of thousands of residential customers in California,
  - Fund labor development, skills training, and community-based digital literacy programs.
- **AB 470 legally binds providers to fulfill commitments**, and the CPUC has the authority to enforce.

# YES ON ASSEMBLY BILL 470

## STRONGLY SUPPORTED BY A BIPARTISAN COALITION OF 120 ORGANIZATIONS, ADVOCATES & COMMUNITY LEADERS

**AB 470 is supported by 120** social justice advocates, Tribes, ethnic business leaders, community organizations, older adult and disability rights champions, and more. **AB 470 is a responsible, balanced approach** to modernizing California's communications infrastructure that **protects consumers, preserves access to essential voice services, strengthens public safety** and **prepares the state for the future.**

### SOCIAL JUSTICE

NAACP California-Hawaii State Conference  
California League of United Latin American Citizens (CA LULAC)  
Concerned Black Men of Los Angeles (CBMLA)  
National Action Network  
Sacramento (NAN Sacramento)  
Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)  
OCA – Asian Pacific American Advocates

### VETERANS

Veterans Association of North County (VANC)  
VetsinTech

### ETHNIC BUSINESS

California African American Chamber of Commerce  
CalAsian Chamber of Commerce  
California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce (CHCC)  
American Indian Chamber of Commerce of California  
Greater Los Angeles African American Chamber of Commerce (GLAAACC)  
Black Business Association (BBCA)  
National Asian/Pacific Islander Chamber of Commerce & Entrepreneurship (ACE)  
National Latina Business Women Association – San Diego (NLBWASD)  
Small Business Diversity Network (SBDN)  
Los Angeles Latino Chamber of Commerce  
Alameda County Latina Chamber of Commerce  
Orange County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
Orange County Black Chamber of Commerce  
San Diego County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
San Francisco African American Chamber of Commerce  
Tulare-Kings Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

### OLDER ADULTS & DISABILITY RIGHTS

California Agencies for the Blind and Visually Impaired (CAABVI)  
Society for the Blind  
The Arc of California  
ABLE Community Development Foundation  
Gurmlan Foundation  
Janet Goeske Foundation  
MORE: Mother Lode Rehabilitation Enterprises  
ONEgeneration  
Curry Senior Center

### HOUSING

Fair Housing Council of Greater Sacramento

### TRIBAL

California Nations Indian Gaming Association (CNIGA)  
Tribal Alliance of Sovereign Indian Nations (TASIN)  
Tribal Leadership Council  
Barona Band of Mission Indians  
Enterprise Rancheria  
Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians  
Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel  
Jamul Indian Village  
La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians  
Mesa Grande Band of Diegueño Mission Indians  
Redding Rancheria  
Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians  
Robinson Rancheria – Pomo Indians of California  
San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians  
Walking Shield, Inc.

### EDUCATION & YOUTH SERVICES

Boys & Girls Club of Carson  
Boys & Girls Club of Fresno County  
Boys & Girls Club of Kern County  
Boys & Girls Club of Vista  
East Oakland Youth Development Center (EOYDC)  
San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps (SGVCC)  
Urban Corps of San Diego County

Latino Education & Advocacy Days (LEAD) CSUSB  
Black Education Expo  
Business of Student Success (BOSS)  
kidSTREAM Children's Museum Dev/Mission  
EXP: The Opportunity Engine  
Mission Bit  
Reality Changers  
The Village Family Services

### COMMUNITY & NON-PROFIT

101 Enterprises Foundation  
United Way of Northern Santa Barbara County (NSBC United Way)  
Asian Pacific American Community Center (APACC)  
African American Community Service Agency (AACSA) Family Resource Center  
Los Angeles Mission  
EmPOWERment: Dess Perkins Foundation  
Coalition for Responsible Community Development (CRCDD)  
MAAC Project (Metropolitan Area Advisory Committee on Anti-Poverty of San Diego County, Inc.)  
Salvadoran American Leadership and Educational Fund (SALEF)  
Telegraph Hill Neighborhood Association (TEL HI)  
The Fresno Center (TFC)  
RISE San Diego  
Haven Community Services  
Concerned Citizens Community Involvement  
digitalLIFT (formerly Community Tech Network)  
Asian Pacific American Public Affairs (APAPA)  
Asian Pacific Islander American Vote (APIAVote)  
California Tennis Association for Underprivileged Youth  
**BUSINESS**  
California Chamber of Commerce (CalChamber)  
Los Angeles County Business Federation (BizFed)  
Central City Association of Los Angeles (CCA)

Valley Industry & Commerce Association (VICA)  
Silicon Valley Leadership Group (SVLG)  
East Bay Leadership Council  
Orange County Business Council (OCBC)  
San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership (SGVEP)  
Business Council of San Joaquin County  
Imperial Valley Economic Development Corporation (IVEDC)  
Kern Economic Development Foundation (KEDF)  
San Diego North Economic Development Council (SDNEDC)  
Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce  
El Segundo Chamber of Commerce  
Encinitas Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Coachella Valley Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce  
Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce  
Los Altos Chamber of Commerce  
Los Gatos Chamber of Commerce  
Marina Chamber of Commerce  
Newport Beach Chamber of Commerce  
North San Diego County REALTORS  
Oceanside Chamber of Commerce  
Pasadena Chamber of Commerce  
San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce  
San Francisco Chamber of Commerce  
San Marcos Chamber of Commerce  
San Ramon Chamber of Commerce  
Santa Clarita Valley Chamber of Commerce  
Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce  
Ventura Chamber of Commerce  
Vista Chamber of Commerce  
Emac Construction, Inc.

### TELECOMMUNICATIONS

AT&T  
USTelecom