

DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION

To: Senator Lena Gonzalez
Assemblymember Cecelia Aguiar-Curry

From: Diane Dillon
NBNCBC Oversight Committee Chair

Subject: Suggestions# for SB 4 and AB 14

Date: February 12, 2021

The NBNCBC Oversight Committee (comprised of a County Supervisor from each member county-Marin, Mendocino, Napa and Sonoma) has reviewed and compared the key points in SB 4 and AB 14. We applaud your willingness to co-author each other's bill and to work towards having the two bills mirror image each other. It is vitally important that this legislation be enacted this year.

While the two bills agree on most key points there are some differences. Hopefully, these differences will be eliminated by open negotiations. As we reviewed the bills we identified some key components we believe need to be covered in the final bills. Here are our suggestions for your consideration.

NEW CALIFORNIA SPEED STANDARDS

- We recommend the bills call for the California "floor" standards be 25 mbps download and 25 mbps upload to support remote learning, remote health delivery support and public safety communications. Ideally, we should strive for 100/100.
- We feel the FCC standards of 25/3 are inadequate and should be raised too and we should push for that to happen.
- Households (or locations) that do not have access to 25/25 should be defined as Unserved.

BROADBAND FUNDING EXTENDED AND EXPANDED

- We believe job 1 is to get the CASF funding extended and the bis should state so.
 - We suggest there be clarification in the bills of how much money will be secured by the proposed service fee.
 - We support the use of CASF funds to secure bonds.
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- We support the use of CASF funds to match Federal monies for infrastructure development.

THE NEED FOR A ROAD MAP

Most importantly, the bills should call for – an explicit “road map” - showing where we (the state) want/need to deploy fiber. We believe the CPUC can generate this map. There is a call in the Governor’s Broadband Action Plan (<https://broadbandcouncil.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/68/2020/12/BB4All-Action-Plan-Final.pdf>.) on page 30 to " improve broadband data and mapping", naming the CPUC, CDFA and OES as the key parties.

We believe the CPUC should lead this effort. Our questions for the CPUC are:

- Can they build a preferred scenario deployment map?
- When could it be accomplished?
- Do they need funding?

Ideally, the bill that emerges would direct the CPUC to create this map by a certain deadline. But we wouldn’t want to legislate something without being certain it can be achieved. And, knowing if funding for data collection/analysis/mapping is needed.

The beauty of said map is twofold:

- It is very difficult to solve a problem without scoping it.
- It is a foregone conclusion that we will need Federal dollars. Securing such monies will require having a plan, which this road map will help illustrate what is needed.

AB 41

In addition to supporting SB 4 and AB 14 we support Asm Jim Wood’s measure (AB41) requiring CalTrans to co-operate with the state’s “Dig Once” policy. Every time we dig a trench in the state is an opportunity to lay down fiber that should not be missed.

The suggestions of the NBNCBC Oversight Committee in this memo do not represent the official position of the Board of Supervisors of our member counties.

cc: NBNCBC Oversight Committee Members-Supervisors Dennis Rodoni-Marin, Ted Williams, Mendocino; Diane Dillon, Napa; and Lynda Hopkins, Sonoma
Senator Mike McGuire; Assemblymember Jim Wood; Assemblymember
