

August 23, 2018  
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Dear Mr Thurmond:

I am concerned about internet access. Internet, like water, roads and electricity is a utility with huge societal advantages to uniform access, extensive infrastructure requirements and eventually very low marginal costs. Safety at the Mendocino fire was reportedly compromised last month in a textbook example of the folly of regulating a utility like one would furniture. First these conditions created a near monopoly and then the repeal of neutrality rules encouraged those few providers to create artificial scarcity and drive up prices through throttling. At the same time governments have been restricted from setting up their own systems by SB 1161. While encouraging localities to build systems makes long term sense the immediate need is for strong net neutrality laws like those signed in Washington and Oregon and the one now in the Assembly after a near derailment in May.

*Please assure me that you will back SB 822 and repeal of SB 1161.*

I am very proud to be a California resident and a large part of that derives from our sensible progressive policies.

Sincerely,  
Eric Babson