

## Sample Letter of Support: Place on Your Organization Letterhead

Here are instructions for submitting a Letter of Support for **SB 1179 (Durazo)**:

### Get Connected California Act of 2024 (SB1179)

**YOUR LETTER MUST BE SUBMITTED BY APRIL 5, 2024** through the California Legislature Position Letter Portal – <https://calegislation.lc.ca.gov/Advocates/>. This bill will soon be set for hearing in Senate Committee on Governmental Organization.

- Establish an account if you have not done so previously.
- Sign up as an individual or a representative for an organization.
- Sign-in as required.

#### How Do to Get Started – It Is Very Easy

Edit the sample Letter of Support to describe your organization and reflect your views. Include an example of a community or person that you've helped in the past who will benefit from this legislation.

Put the letter on your organization letterhead or simply insert your logo into the header (click on "Insert" to edit header by removing the placeholder and inserting your logo). Sign the letter.

Complete a one-time [registration](#) to obtain a username and password, log in to submit your position letter as a registered lobbyist, organization, or individual seeking to communicate your views to the author's staff as well as the Committee that will be hearing the bill.

Submit your letter to the Assembly Committee on Health.

If you need more help, review the site FAQs, click [here](#).

**Please send a copy of your Letter of Support to CETF: [Leticia.Alejandrez@CETFund.org](mailto:Leticia.Alejandrez@CETFund.org)**

Sample Letter of Support: Place on Your Organization Letterhead  
**PLEASE SUPPORT SB1179 (DURAZO) – GET CONNECTED CALIFORNIA ACT OF 2024**

March 21, 2024

Senate Committee on Governmental Organization  
1020 N Street, Room 584  
Sacramento, California 95814

**Support SB1179: Get Connected California Act of 2024**

Dear Chair Bill Dodd, Vice Chair Scott Wilk, and Committee Members Marie Alvarado-Gil, Bob Archuleta, Angelique Ashby, Steven Bradford, Steven Glazer, Brian Jones, Janet Nguyen, Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh, Steve Padilla, Anthony Portantino, Richard Roth, Susan Rubio, Kelly Seyarto, and Lola Smallwood-Cuevas:

On behalf of **[Organization Name]**, we are writing to urge you to pass SB1179 (Durazo), the Get Connected California Act of 2024. SB1179 requires the California Department of Technology (CDT) to enter into procurement contracts only with qualified Internet Service Providers (ISPs) that offer affordable Internet service for eligible households. This bill also requires CDT to establish and meet goals to get all low-income households connected to the Internet as a pivotal strategy to achieve Digital Equity.

SB1179 is most urgent now that the federal Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) – a \$30 per month benefit for Internet connection for low-income eligible households – no longer is accepting applications (effective February 7, 2024) without reauthorization funding by Congress. Thus, California needs a backstop and back-up plan to guarantee that there always will be affordable high-speed quality Internet service available to all residents. This is the last major pillar of policy to ensure Digital Equity as envisioned by the Legislature and Governor.

More than 5.8 million low-income households in California are in need of affordable Internet service to have a lifeline to quality of life, public safety, and a better economic future. California outperformed all other states by enrolling almost 3 million households in ACP. However, more than 2.8 million remain to be reached—most of who were not even aware of ACP according to the 2023 Statewide Digital Equity Survey. This finding alone is strong evidence of the need for more advertising in language and in culture as required by SB1179.

The bedrock question is: Shouldn't ISPs who are receiving taxpayer or ratepayer funds be required to assist the State in getting all low-income households online so that everyone can participate in daily life as we know it? The challenge is to ensure that ISPs continue to offer affordable Internet subscriptions for low-income households and join with the State in increasing awareness. SB1179—Get Connected California Act of 2024—is the best solution to achieve the Digital Equity.

[Organization Name] respectfully requests your “Aye” vote for SB1179.

*[Signed]*

cc: Leticia.Alejandrez@CETFund.org