



CALinnovates

September 9, 2015

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor, State of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of CALinnovates and its members, I am writing to urge your signature on AB 57 (Quirk).

CALinnovates, a non-partisan technology advocacy coalition, works promote a robust innovation ecosystem and economy in California. A key factor to California's success is a clearer and more consistent regulatory climate at the state and local level. We support AB 57 because it will create needed certainty in the process of constructing and updating wireless infrastructure to provide California consumers and businesses the coverage and capacity they demand in order to fuel the growth of the digital economy.

Demand for wireless broadband is growing exponentially as new applications, devices and technologies consume more bandwidth and attract more subscribers. Infrastructure is the first point of network contact for all of our smartphones, tablets and other wireless devices. Without adequate wireless facilities and the ability to expeditiously update existing infrastructure, wireless providers cannot meet demand for coverage or capacity, whether for citizens making 9-1-1 calls, public safety responding to emergencies, or consumers and businesses sharing data.

Too often in California the local approval process for needed wireless facilities is unreliable. Decisions can take years and halt needed improvements. To expedite this process, in 2009 the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) established a "shot clock" requiring local governments to make final decisions on all proposed wireless facilities. In the case of new tower proposals, a decision is required within 150 days of receipt of a complete application. Since 2009, other states across the country have moved to enact similar guidelines to enable the deployment of new wireless infrastructure to facilitate broadband deployment.

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AB 57 ensures California remains competitive by simply harmonizing California law with the FCC's existing "shot clock" rules and provides a simple but meaningful remedy, if local governments fail to adhere to the FCC's time guideline.

For all the reasons described herein, CALinnovates respectfully urges you to sign AB 57 into law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Mike Montgomery
Executive Director
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