



June 8, 2020

The Honorable Lena Gonzalez
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 2068
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: SB 1130 (Gonzalez) Telecommunications: California Advanced Services Fund – Support

Dear Senator Gonzalez:

I am writing to you on behalf of the California Alliance for Retired Americans (CARA) to vigorously support SB 1130. CARA is California's largest grassroots senior advocacy organization, representing over 1,000,000 seniors and their families through our 270 affiliated organizations.

The USA and California lack uniform fast broadband service. SB 1130 will promote faster, cheaper broadband service over time by:

- requiring the installation of new high-speed infrastructure in areas that might otherwise receive slow or no broadband service,
- supporting the entry of new, smaller entities, such as municipalities, into providing broadband service, and
- providing service in under-served areas, whether rural, suburban, or urban.

Rural electrification took rural areas into the 20th century and made America an undeniably first-world country. Providing universal high-speed broadband service is the 21st century counterpart. It will help make California more competitive in the world economy and it will end the isolation of people and families in under-served and unserved areas who need broadband for emergency and other communications and also to educate their children.

Therefore, CARA supports SB 1130, and we look forward to working with you on the passage of this bill. If you have questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hene Kelly".

Hene Kelly
Legislative Director
415-533-5244

Cc. Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee