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The Internet defies a detailed one-size-fits-all approach to public policy and regulation. America's federal and state lawmakers, as well as policy makers from other countries should be guided by principles that foster the Internet's development while protecting the security and privacy of individual users.

Our nation's state legislatures are well-aware of the impact that access to the Internet and electronic commerce have on the economic vitality of our states and communities. State legislatures also recognize that the marketplace for electronic commerce is global, not just in the United States but is present in the vast global market. State legislatures share the concern of many in Congress that ill-conceived over-regulation and taxation of the Internet and electronic commerce services could harm our nation's ability to compete globally. However, state legislatures also recognize that they have an obligation to act, when and if necessary, to protect the general welfare of their constituents. As the use of the Internet continues to expand, any future or existing regulations must be balanced against market forces in a competitive and technologically neutral manner, as government must not choose the winners or losers of the digital age.

Nothing in this policy statement is to be construed as limiting or affecting the right of any state to regulate alcohol according to its local norms and standards pursuant to the 21st Amendment.

NCSL opposes unnecessary or unwarranted federal legislation or regulation that would impede efforts by states to promote access to the Internet, enhance competition or increased consumer choice, or ensure the security of personal information of consumers conducting electronic commerce transactions.
The National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) supports the following principles in formulating laws and regulations that impact the Internet and electronic commerce:

**Privacy and Security**
Every American should be empowered to protect their privacy and personal information from intrusion or piracy. While NCSL recognizes that there is a need for Congress to act to establish a national policy to protect the personal information of Americans, state legislatures, in the absence of any action by Congress and the federal government, have moved to fill the void. NCSL calls upon the Congress to enact federal Internet privacy legislation that ensures the security of Americans' personal information with the least amount of government regulation as possible. However, NCSL opposes federal legislation that seeks to preempt existing state statutes and regulations governing privacy protections and security for non-Internet based transactions.

**Data Privacy and Security**
With the proliferation of data online, including the internet of things and mobile devices, the regulation of the collection, sales, and transmission of consumer data is increasingly a priority for state and federal lawmakers. NCSL recognizes the importance of consumer data privacy and security protections, as well as the role of the states as leaders in establishing those protections for their constituents.

In response to many high-profile security breaches and violations of consumer privacy, data privacy and security have become the subject of increasing regulation, most notably the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in Europe. States and the federal government are working to protect against data breaches, mishandling of data, and non-transparent sale of consumer data in a way that balances myriad competing interests and allows for innovation while safeguarding the rights of consumers. Congress has yet to enact any significant or comprehensive legislation that addresses consumer data privacy and security protection. Meanwhile, state activity in the areas of data privacy and security has significantly increased in the past few years and states will not hesitate to act in the absence of federal legislation.
NCSL opposes blanket state preemption in federal data privacy and security legislation. However, because of the interstate nature of the internet and data transmission, NCSL recognizes the need for uniformity in the regulatory environment and supports a federal floor that allows for state flexibility to enact further consumer protections. Although data privacy and security legislation has traditionally followed a sector-by-sector approach, NCSL further urges Congress to consider comprehensive legislation in setting any national standard.

NCSL strongly urges Congress to engage in regular and meaningful consultation of state lawmakers when considering federal privacy and security legislation. State lawmakers should be included in hearings, review of draft language, principle setting, and other Congressional activity intended to impact state regulatory regimes. If Congress develops a national standard, NCSL strongly encourages consultation with states and recognition of state expertise in addressing the varied interests of each state’s unique constituency. In any federal legislation, NCSL urges Congress to prioritize transparency and informed privacy decisions, and to carefully consider the best method for consumer notice, disclosure, and consent. NCSL further encourages Congress to consider issues of third-party access and sales, disposal of data, consumer rights to control data, and the burden of protecting consumer data. States have also engaged in significant deliberation over the applicability of consumer protections to various data types, including how to define personal data and how categories of data collectors or sellers should be regulated. NCSL supports recognition by Congress of states’ expertise on these issues and opposes any legislation that preempts state law without meaningful consideration of state priorities or established consumer protections.

NCSL also recognizes the rapidly evolving nature of data collection and urges Congress to consider biometric data, location data, and technologies like facial recognition and artificial intelligence when considering federal legislation.
States should retain the right to establish their own legal rights of action, enforcement regimes, and oversight authority. NCSL urges Congress to protect the right of the states to enforce data privacy provisions in any federal legislation.

**Telemarketing**

NCSL recognizes the increase in telemarketing activity and robocalls across the nation and the work of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and Federal Communications Commission on expanding consumer rights in this area. NCSL encourages Congress to pass legislation to protect consumers from harassment and predatory telemarketing activity, including requiring telephone service providers to, at no cost to the customer:

1. Make robocall mitigation technology available to any customer;
2. Implement call authentication technology to identify likely spoofed calls; and
3. Offer call blocking technology.

**Free Speech**

The Internet allows people to communicate and share ideas with others with an ease never before possible. Federal government policy should rigorously protect freedom of speech and expression on the Internet, but not restrict states or local governments from oversight protecting freedom of speech. New technologies should adequately enable individuals, families and schools to protect themselves and students from communications and materials they deem offensive or inappropriate. State law enforcement, with federal assistance and resources, must be able to enforce criminal statutes against predators that use the Internet to harm or abuse children.

**Self-governance**

NCSL requests that Congress maintain the current self-governance approach that allows the competitive marketplace to drive broadband and broadband-related applications development and deployment. Congress should avoid adopting new mandates and provide the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) with defined and limited authority to oversee, but not proactively intervene in, the broadband Internet.
marketplace consistent with principles that focus on assessing whether the market continues to ensure that consumers can:

1. Receive meaningful information regarding their broadband service plans;
2. Have access to their choice of legal Internet content, subject to recognizing the limits on bandwidth and quality of service of their service plan;
3. Run applications of their choice, subject to the needs of law enforcement and the limits on bandwidth limits and quality of service of their service plans, as long as they do not harm the provider’s network or interfere with other consumers’ use of the broadband service; and
4. Be permitted to attach any devices they choose to their broadband connection at the consumer’s premise, so long as they operate within the limits on bandwidth and quality of service of their service plans and do not harm the provider’s network, interfere with other consumers’ use of the broadband service, or enable theft of services.

Consumer Protection
Industry self-regulation has made an important contribution to the development of electronic commerce. Industry technologies and best practices, combined with the enactment of strong state laws which outlaw deceptive practices and fraudulent online behavior, are essential elements in promoting electronic commerce and enhancing consumer protection. Privacy and consumer protection continue to be priority issues in state legislatures.

NCSL supports the efforts of state legislatures to develop new policy initiatives to protect consumers online, especially when the federal government fails to respond to consumers’ concerns. NCSL also recognizes that because of the global nature of the Internet that states must seek cooperative federal action to further enhance consumer protection, privacy and information security. Federal legislation must ensure the authority of state attorneys general to enforce federal statutes protecting consumers.
However, NCSL opposes any attempt by Congress to restrict the states’ ability to impose criminal and/or civil penalties for illegal activity that may occur over the Internet.

Growth
Public policies must be designed to foster continuing expansion of useful and affordable bandwidth, encourage development of innovative technologies and promote broad universal access. Federal and state governments must work together to ensure that all Americans, regardless of where they live, have competitive access to high-speed broadband technologies. Government must work to guarantee open and competitive markets for broadband services.

Information Technology
Information technology (IT) is a global industry. A strong American IT industry enhances and strengthens the economic well-being of our states and nation. States and the federal government must work together to ensure a climate that allows America’s IT companies to continue to perform research and technology development, to generate innovative new products and services and to solve customer problems. States must have the unfettered ability to continue to seek ways to use IT to better the lives of their residents. Therefore, NCSL opposes any attempt by the federal government to restrict or penalize states’ efforts to utilize information technology services and products that allow states to provide more efficient government services to residents at lower costs to taxpayers.

Internet Gambling
Congress must respect the sovereignty of states to allow or to prohibit Internet gambling by their residents.

The Wire Act of 1961 prohibits using an interstate wire communication to transmit bets or wagers or information assisting in the placing of bets or wagers on any sporting event or contest. The law also made it illegal to use interstate wire communications transmissions to provide remuneration for winning bets or wagers or for information assisting in the placing of bets or wagers.
In 2018, the Supreme Court’s ruling in *Murphy vs. National Collegiate Athletic Assn.* allowed states to legalize and regulate sports betting for the first time, and many states have passed or are considering legislation that allows online gaming. Additionally, states currently engage in online gaming markets, interstate online poker pools, online lottery sales, and interstate lottery pools, among other online gaming activities. States and bettors also use the internet for marketing and payment processing. Some states currently utilize technology that restricts sportsbooks and users to operate within state lines.

The Department of Justice has issued several memos on the application of the Wire Act that may impact the ability of states to operate and regulate a variety of online betting and gaming activities. In 2019, the Office of Legal Counsel in the Department of Justice issued a revision of their 2011 opinion. The revision stated that the restrictions in the Wire Act apply to any form of gambling that crosses state lines, and may impact many currently legal state gambling activities, including the passing of data through intermediaries. The revision creates uncertainty in the regulatory environment and may cause disruption in state markets as litigation follows.

NCSL recognizes the importance of state sovereignty in the operation and regulation of online gaming and the importance of a predictable and stable regulatory environment. NCSL encourages Congress and the Department of Justice to engage in regular and meaningful consultation of state lawmakers and regulators when considering bills, opinions, or other actions that may disrupt current state markets or affect the ability of states to regulate online gaming. NCSL recognizes that states are best suited to regulate online gambling and encourages the Department of Justice to revise its current interpretation of the Wire Act to recognize state sovereignty in regulating these activities and provide market stability.

NCSL also urges Congress to clarify the Wire Act to protect the ability of states to operate and regulate online gambling activities as they see fit, including currently legal activities threatened by the revision of the OLC opinion. NCSL further recognizes that the Wire Act contains language that is out of date and does not reflect the reality that
states, markets, consumers, and regulators operate in the age of the internet and digital commerce. NCSL supports a revision of the Wire Act that updates the Act to more accurately represents current technology and communications capabilities.

**Electronic Commerce and Taxation**

Government policies should create a workable infrastructure in which electronic commerce can flourish. Policy makers must resist any temptation to apply tax policy to the Internet in a discriminatory or multiple manner that hinders growth. Government tax systems should treat transactions, including telecommunications and electronic commerce, in a competitively neutral and non-discriminatory manner. The federal government and America’s industries should work with state legislatures in ensuring equal tax treatment of all forms of commerce and should encourage state efforts to achieve simplification and uniformity through the streamlining of state and local sales and telecommunications tax systems.

NCSL supports the reform of the discriminatory taxation of communications services and believes that if state and local governments were to take such action, the need for the federal moratorium on Internet access would cease to exist.

**VIDEO FRANCHISE REFORM**

Innovation and convergence of existing technologies are radically expanding communications and information services, blurring distinctions between telephone, Internet services, cable, wireless and satellite. These rapid changes often outpace abilities of federal, state and local regulatory regimes to adapt. It is important that video regulatory policy assure that like services are treated alike, investment is encouraged, and services are in a non-discriminatory manner.

**State Administration Will Preserve State Authority**

Local jurisdictions are the creation of either state constitutions or law. The powers that these political subdivisions of the state exercise were granted to them over time by state legislatures. Those local jurisdictions that have franchise authority have it as a result of
state legislation or the state constitution. Therefore, any attempt by Congress to
preempt current local franchise authority is a preemption of state sovereignty.

While NCSL rarely advocates the consideration of legislation in state legislatures, NCSL
has at times, when states are facing a crisis or a serious threat of federal preemption,
urged state legislatures to take action. NCSL endorses efforts that remove barriers to
entry for or inequity of regulation among video competitors and foster additional
consumer choices in the video marketplace ultimately ensuring competitive neutrality.

Government should encourage competition and consumer choices for broadband and
video services and promote the deployment of broadband services and technologies, as
well as including options for public-private partnerships where applicable.

**Fees and Taxation of Video Providers**

Franchise fees today are levied, imposed or collected as a percentage of gross
revenues, used for general revenue purposes and not based on the actual direct and
identifiable costs of any benefit to the entity that pays the fee. To the extent such fees
are intended as payment for use of public rights-of-way, that fee should be limited to the
actual, direct and identifiable cost of such use, and that portion of the fee should be
applied only to those who use the rights-of-way. Franchise fees should be collected and
administered by one central agency per state.
WHEREAS, the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) was a landmark civil rights law enacted on October 12, 1977 to end certain practices by financial institutions that made it difficult for low- and moderate-income Americans, racial and ethnic minorities, and others in their neighborhoods to access credit services, such as mortgages and business loans, regardless of their qualifications or creditworthiness; and

WHEREAS, discrimination in lending is still a problem; and

WHEREAS, the CRA states that “regulated financial institutions have continuing and affirmative obligations to help meet the credit needs of the local communities in which they are chartered”; and

WHEREAS, the CRA establishes a regulatory regime for monitoring the level of lending, investments, and services in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods traditionally underserved by lending institutions under which examiners from three federal agencies (the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and the Federal Reserve Board) assess and grade a lending institution’s activities in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, if a federal agency finds a financial institution not properly serving these neighborhoods, it can delay or deny that institution’s request to merge with another lender, open a branch, expand any of its other services, or approve the merger application subject to specific improvements in a bank’s lending or investment record in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods; and
WHEREAS, a financial institution’s CRA grade can be downgraded if a federal agency uncovers evidence of illegal, abusive, or discriminatory lending on their fair lending exams that occurs around the same time as CRA exams; and

WHEREAS, since 1996, according to analysis of bank lending data by the National Community Reinvestment Coalition (NCRC), CRA-covered banks issued more than 27 million small business loans in low- and moderate-income tracts, totaling $1.093 trillion, and $1.076 trillion in community development loans that support affordable housing and economic development projects benefiting low- and moderate-income communities; and

WHEREAS, the annual dollar amount of community development loans increased 443 percent from $17.7 billion in 1996 to $96 billion in 2016; and a 2016 review of the CRA examinations of intermediate small banks (ISBs)/mid-sized banks (banks with asset sizes today between $313 million and $1.252 billion) found that ISBs produced over $9.3 billion of community development (CD) loans and grants; and

WHEREAS, CRA-covered home lending may lead to lower delinquency rates and less risky lending; and

WHEREAS, the CRA has not been updated to take into account changes in the banking industry and the economy, for example, independent mortgage companies not covered by CRA now make more than 50 percent of the home mortgage loans in America, and financial technology companies (“fintech”) not covered by CRA are rapidly increasing their lending; and

WHEREAS, geographic assessment areas must remain the focus of CRA exams for all banks; banks should continue to be graded based on each geography where they lend or receive a significant percentage of their deposits; banks cannot be allowed to be selective with where they lend, where they do not lend at all, or to ignore the credit needs of distressed and vulnerable communities; and
WHEREAS, a “one ratio” approach by regulators to reviewing a bank’s CRA grade does not sufficiently reflect how, if, and where a bank is lending and investing and whether they are being responsive to the particular credits needs of their local community (the dollar amount of a bank’s CRA activities (loans, investments, and services to low- and moderate-income people) divided by the bank’s assets or the bank’s “Tier One” capital); and

WHEREAS, the CRA should explicitly state the law’s obligation to fairly serve all races and ethnicities and that banks that engage in large-scale illegal and harmful activities should fail their CRA exams.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, NCSL supports efforts to modernize the CRA, but opposes regulators efforts to dilute the penalties under the CRA for discrimination; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that federal legislation such as the American Housing and Economic Mobility Act serves as an example that will strengthen the CRA by covering more financial institutions, promoting investment in activities that help both low- and moderate-income and traditionally underserved communities, and strengthening sanctions against institutions that fail to follow the rules; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, NCSL opposes regulators’ efforts to raise bank thresholds and exempt more banks, such as ISBs/mid-sized banks, from examination of their community development lending and investments; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, NCSL supports modernizing CRA to apply it to non-bank institutions including mortgage companies, financial technology companies, and credit unions; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, NCSL supports modernizing the CRA to include a clearly-defined grading system that emphasizes lending, bank branches, fair lending performance, and responsible loan products for working class families; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, NCSL urges Congress to include in the CRA provisions to hold a bank accountable if it fails its CRA exam or wishes to acquire a bank with a better CRA grade, and incentivize agencies to recognize and encourage community benefit agreements and efforts that motivate banks to make more loans, investments, and services available to traditionally underserved communities.
NCSL recognizes that intellectual property (IP) rights and innovation are important drivers of job creation and America’s economic growth. According to the U.S. Department of Commerce 2016 report, over 45 million jobs are directly and indirectly supported by IP-intensive industries as significant drivers of GDP, exports, and wages in every state, and the average worker in an IP-intensive industry earns 30 percent higher wages than those of non IP-intensive industries. IP-intensive industries drive American exports accounting for approximately $1 trillion (74 percent of total U.S. exports).

Given the important role that IP plays in sustaining a long-term economic growth, policymakers should prioritize innovation and protecting intellectual property. Protecting and enforcing the IP rights of businesses is critical to advancing global economic recovery, driving competitiveness and export growth, and creating high-quality jobs. IP protections, though vital, must be balanced with other priorities, including the right of citizens to access affordable drugs and medical devices and the ability of state governments to contain Medicaid costs. Balanced efforts to promote innovation through intellectual property protection and affordable healthcare are critical to improving the nation’s long-term competitiveness in a global market, and to achieving certain socioeconomic improvements in the quality of American life.

NCSL calls upon all levels of governments to work cooperatively with the private sector, nonprofits, and academia to create, develop and implement robust pro-IP awareness and enforcement. NCSL also supports efforts to ensure the Intellectual Property
Enforcement Coordinator within the Executive Office of the President has sufficient staff, budget, and authority to fulfill the obligations and achieve the goals outlined in the Prioritizing Resources and Organization for Intellectual Property Act of 2008 (PRO-IP Act) and the National IP Strategy. NCSL further supports robust and balanced IP protection and enforcement provisions in trade agreements, protecting U.S. jobs and wages while ensuring that excessive monopoly protections do not saddle states or individuals with burdensome costs that limit healthcare options or endanger public health. Finally, NCSL supports existing efforts to shut down the top illegal rogue websites globally that are willfully selling counterfeit goods and facilitating digital theft.
WHEREAS, states actively establish, fund and promote broadband internet policies, authorities and projects across the country;

WHEREAS, broadband is fundamental in furthering the education, economic development, and health of all Americans;

WHEREAS, states want to close the digital divide and ensure equal access to broadband internet across all regions of the state;

WHEREAS, under the Federal Communications Commission’s (FCC) statutory authority, the Communications Act of 1934 and the Telecommunications Act of 1996 acknowledge the dual but collaborative role state and federal government have in providing, regulating and promoting communications services;

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2017, FCC Chairman Ajit Pai announced the formation of the Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee (“BDAC”), a federal advisory committee tasked with providing advice and recommendations to the FCC on how to identify and remove regulatory barriers to accelerate the deployment of high speed broadband internet access;

WHEREAS, FCC Chairman Pai has appointed 36 members of the BDAC, only two (2) BDAC members represent state or local entities, two (3) city government, and one (1) tribal;
WHEREAS, the BDAC released on November 9, 2017 draft proposals for a December 6, 2018 a Model Code for States, Competitive Access to Broadband Infrastructures, Removing State and Local Regulatory Barriers, and a Model Code for Municipalities;

WHEREAS, serving as of an advisory body to the FCC, the BDAC’s recommendations hold influence over FCC efforts to identify and remove regulatory barriers to broadband infrastructure deployment;

WHEREAS, the BDAC membership should equally reflect constituencies significantly impacted by the recommendations, and therefore a greater number of state government representatives should be on the BDAC;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE RESOLVED, the FCC should increase the representation of state legislators in BDAC membership;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, NCSL urges the FCC to work collaboratively with states to identify methods for accelerating the deployment of high-speed broadband internet access;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, NCSL opposes FCC efforts to pre-empt the traditional authority of states around rights-of-way, pole attachments and policies governing telecommunications facilities;

BE IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED, to submit this resolution to the Federal Communications Commission and the Chairman, Ajit Pai.

Expires July 2020
WHEREAS, states have an interest in policies that preserve and encourage continued private investment to deploy broadband technologies, support small and minority businesses and entrepreneurs’ participation in the digital economy, and equip minority communities with the skills and education to take advantage of these technologies; and

WHEREAS, Wi-Fi spectrum in the 2.4 GHz band has become highly congested, especially in densely populated urban areas making it difficult for Wi-Fi providers to deliver the kinds and quality of service that consumers have come to expect and will only accelerate as the number of wireless devices continues to grow; and

WHEREAS, the 5 GHz band has enormous potential to support continued growth in unlicensed wireless services, including the next generation of Wi-Fi which will create a platform for technological innovation, investment, and economic growth; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) acknowledges the critical role that next generation Wi-Fi technologies can have on consumers and has agreed to take a first step in the 5 GHz band by adding over 100 MHz of spectrum for Wi-Fi, making it available for indoor and outdoor use; and

WHEREAS, Wi-Fi is essential to unleashing the enormous economic potential of the internet in communities where broadband adoption lags; and
WHEREAS, while according to the Pew Research Center, more Americans are gaining access to broadband in their homes, adoption rates for African Americans and Latinos still lag those of whites by 10 to 20 percentage points respectively and when accounting for income only 54 percent of those with a household income under $30,000 had high speed broadband or a computer at home increasing the importance of Wi-Fi for these communities; and

WHEREAS, broadband access through Wi-Fi is critical to empowering minority and minority women entrepreneurs to develop, grow and improve productivity of their businesses as well as strengthening U.S. competitiveness nationally and worldwide; and

WHEREAS, unlicensed Wi-Fi is a critical issue that, if left unresolved, will hinder the broadband industry’s ability to grow, innovate and compete and limiting access to this important resource will jeopardize consumers ability to access Wi-Fi; and

WHEREAS, NCSL agrees that the proliferation of smartphones, tablets and other mobile devices with Internet access has grown significantly, placing a greater demand on both licensed and unlicensed spectrum, and adding additional capacity is essential to support continued innovation and achieve the potential to transform many different areas of the American economy by providing a platform for innovation and is likely to have a substantial impact on jobs, growth and investment; and

WHEREAS, NCSL strongly believes that ensuring the long-term success of unlicensed services in the 5 GHz band for Wi-Fi will enable the broadband industry to provide reliable and affordable services to broadband customers, particularly given communities of colors’ high usage of mobile broadband technology as a primary means of connecting to the Internet with the majority of these connection now being Wi-Fi connections; and
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that NCSL supports the Federal Communications Commission’s move to allocate additional 5 GHz band spectrum for unlicensed use in order to meet increased demand for wireless technologies; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that NCSL send a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, Members of Congress, the Federal Communications Commission, State Legislatures and Governors.

Expires July 2020
Reducing barriers of smart community infrastructure (resolution)

Whereas, smart community technologies can strengthen America’s cities, states and regions by improving the overall quality of life, economic opportunity, and security for those who live in America’s communities; and

Whereas, the development and deployment of smart community technologies in the communication, energy, and transportation sectors provides new opportunities to increase overall public health and facilitates economic growth across urban and rural communities; and

Whereas, such smart community innovation encompasses a range of technological solutions to modernize and improve the delivery of state and local government services; and

Whereas, smart community technologies can achieve community goals, such as increasingly clean and efficient transportation, improved energy management, integration of distributed and renewable energy resources, increase access to better quality broadband connectivity and enhanced transportation mobility; and

Whereas, partnerships between state and local governments and the private sector can support ‘smart community’ innovations across all communities and help overcome resource constraints and impediments, and facilitate the efficient coordination of services; and
Whereas, these public-private partnerships can help accelerate smart community advancements and new technology deployments that benefit residents and constituents across cities, states, and regions; and ensure that smart community technologies are efficiently integrated and provide maximum benefit to the communities they serve; and

Whereas, the infrastructure of the communications, energy, and transportation sectors are not only interconnected, but serve as the foundational elements to enable the deployment of new smart community technologies in all communities; and

Therefore, agencies, such as the department of transportation, federal communications commission, federal aviation administration, the department of agriculture and the department of energy should fund grant programs and opportunities for state and local governments that support efficient investments in smart communities; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that ncsl believes that policymakers, as well as partners from the communications, energy and transportation sectors, should continue to work at the local, state, and federal levels to develop policies that facilitate and accelerate the development and deployment of smart community technologies that can maximize benefits for all communities at the local, state, and regional levels.

Now, be it further resolved, that ncsl supports additional federal funding toward the development of smart communities, and that the department of transportation should re-launch the 2015 smart city challenge, and expand the number of communities eligible to receive awards across the nation

Expires July 2020