



DRA

*Division of Ratepayer Advocates
California Public Utilities Commission*

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JOSEPH P. COMO
Acting Director

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April 9, 2013

Honorable Steven Bradford
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 5136
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1299 (Bradford) - Support

Dear Assemblymember Bradford:

Division of Ratepayer Advocates (DRA) is the independent consumer advocate within the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). DRA's statutory mandate is to obtain the lowest possible rates for utility services consistent with safe and reliable service levels. DRA also advocates for customer and environmental protections in connection with utility service.

DRA supports your AB 1299, which would require the CPUC to encourage deployment and adoption of high-quality advanced communications services in publicly supported urban housing communities. AB 1299 would provide a targeted approach for directing funds to low income communities.

AB 1299 would bring California closer to ubiquitous broadband deployment and adoption. DRA supports your bill's efforts to strategically direct program funding to needy low income urban communities and looks forward to working with you to ensure it is enacted into law.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter further, please call DRA's Legislative Advisor Rebecca Tsai-Wei Lee, at (916) 327-1407 or me at (415) 703-2381.

Respectfully,

Joseph P. Como, Acting Director
Division of Ratepayer Advocates

By
Rebecca Lee
Legislative Advisor