Hello, it seems that we had the incorrect time listed for this convening after it was pushed back a week and had I not noted the time change.

I wanted to share the comment on behalf of the Campaign for College Opportunity. We hope that this will be considered at the Council makes final edits and deliberations to the plan.

Warmly,
Katrina

Good Afternoon Chair Amy Tong and Broadband Council Members

My name is Katrina Linden, Legislative Affairs Manager with the Campaign for College Opportunity - a statewide policy and advocacy organization dedicated to ensuring all Californians have an equal opportunity to attend and succeed in college.

As you work toward a final California State Broadband Action Plan, equitable internet access for our most unserved communities must be at the forefront of the Council’s action plan, including California’s college and university students. The pandemic has exposed the stark inequities in broadband access which must be addressed to ensure student success and the state’s economic recovery.

We urge you to address the following in the action plan:

- Establishing goals for a 1 to 1 student-to-device ratio at all education levels for our low-income students—so that they can connect to the internet via a router, hotspot, antenna, laptop, etc.
- Securing intermediate, on-campus public internet accessibility through WIFI integrated parking lots, socially distanced on-campus learning centers, or cell-on-wheels programs.
- Prioritizing marketing of reduced-cost or free broadband access programs and developing metrics to reach the neediest student,
- Preventing digital redlining by expanding coverage within rural, tribal, and underserved low-income communities.

Ensuring equitable distance learning is critical to California students’ success and the state’s recovery and future economic strength.

Thank you for your time.
Good afternoon.

Nothing else is needed at this point. The Chair will note when it is time for public comment during the meeting.

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Hello, I plan to provide comment at this Thursday's Broadband Council meeting. Please let me know if anything further is needed at this time or if I should email again the day of.

Thank you,

Katrina

Katrina M. Linden (she/her)
Legislative Affairs Manager
Campaign for College Opportunity

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