



A RESOLUTION OF THE CALIFORNIA PARTNERSHIP FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY TO SERVE AS THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY REGIONAL BROADBAND CONSORTIUM

WHEREAS, Closing the Digital Divide is vital to the economic prosperity and quality of life for residents in the San Joaquin Valley and throughout California, and

WHEREAS, The California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership) finds and declares that high-speed Internet access—referred to generically as “broadband” and including both wire line and wireless technologies—is essential 21st Century infrastructure in a digital world and global economy, and

WHEREAS, The Partnership recognizes that California is home to a wellspring of innovation that has given rise to the evolution of broadband and other information technologies; however, adoption and use of broadband technology by Californians is only approximately equivalent to the national average, and

WHEREAS, The Partnership acknowledges that in 2010 that 30% of all Californians, 51% of low-income households, 50% of Latino families, 45% of people with disabilities and 49% of Central Valley households are not connected to the Internet with broadband, leaving more than 10 million Californians without high-speed Internet access at home, and

WHEREAS, The Partnership is committed to helping families and children be healthy, productive and self-sufficient, and realizes that the use of broadband can save both time and money for residents while helping them bridge the economic divide, and

WHEREAS, The Partnership is committed to helping students obtain the highest quality education possible incorporating digital literacy, and understands that high-speed Internet connectivity and the availability of computing devices both at school and at home are critical teaching and learning tools for academic achievement, and

WHEREAS, The Partnership is committed to reducing its carbon footprint and recognizes that broadband is a strategic “green” technology that decreases greenhouse gas emissions and dependence on foreign oil by enabling e-government and the provision of more services online, and

WHEREAS, The Partnership is committed to Digital Inclusion and increasing citizen participation in the public process through expanded engagement using broadband, and

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WHEREAS, The Partnership understands that SB 1040 authorizes the extension and expansion of the California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) established by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to promote and support broadband infrastructure deployment to unserved and underserved communities, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley Board of Directors supports and recognizes the Partnership as the Regional Broadband Consortium and directs that an application to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) be submitted to secure funds through SB 1040 to appropriate policies promoting and supporting the deployment and adoption of broadband throughout the San Joaquin Valley.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2011.

Ashley Swearengin, Chair