# OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 08 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 41 without my signature.

This bill makes minor changes to the Digital Infrastructure and Video Competition Act (DIVCA). Two years ago, I signed SB 28 (2021), which made minor changes to DIVCA. In signing that bill I encouraged the Legislature to go further on DIVCA reform. Unfortunately, this bill does not go far enough.

While I greatly value and appreciate the efforts made by the author, the changes this bill makes will not meaningfully increase digital equity in California. I am deeply committed to providing access to broadband services to ALL Californians. So much so that in 2021, I worked with the Legislature to pass an historic $6 billion broadband infrastructure investment to bridge the Digital Divide.

If we are going to close the Digital Divide once and for all, we must build on these efforts and consider strategic reforms to the policy tools at our disposal. To that end, I look forward to partnering with the Legislature to further our broadband access and affordability efforts.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom