

March 12, 2015

Honorable Mark Leno California State Capitol Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 178 (Leno, 2015)-SUPPORT

Dear Senator Leno:

Google, Inc is pleased to support your SB 178, which seeks to prohibit government agencies from accessing a variety of electronic communications and related information without a warrant or consent.

SB 178 would update California law to ensure that online communications are afforded comparable privacy protections to those that exist for offline communications. We believe our users deserve stronger protections than they have today. Updating the state's electronic surveillance laws is one of the easiest and most effective ways to protect Californians' privacy.

Law enforcement agencies must be able to pursue illegal activity and keep the public safe. But it's also important that laws afford the highest privacy protections for our users' communications and related information. In that context, if enacted, SB 178 will better align California's laws with how people use the Internet today and provide them with important protections they should reasonably expect.

We look forward to working with you to further refine the legislation as it makes it way through the legislative process. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

Mufaddal Ezzy, CA Manager

Public Policy and Government Relations