

TECHNOLOGY, BROADBAND AND E-COMMERCE

Telecommunications is essential to the U.S. economy. Broadband application and services have the power to transform the American economy by spurring investment and innovation in e-commerce, education, health care, entertainment, government and almost every other economic sector. The ability to engage in e-commerce enables all businesses, regardless of size or location, to sell to customers around the country and the world. Accordingly, The Partnership supports the following technology, broadband and e-commerce policies:

TELECOM ACT OF 1996

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 gives limited attention to the internet and has no mention of “broadband” or “high speed internet.” Modernization of this act and any included regulations should be limited, with the knowledge that rules have difficulty in keeping pace with fast advancing technology. Intelligent regulatory restraint will also serve the purpose of encouraging private sector investment in this critical and evolving technology.

BROADBAND

The Partnership supports federal policies that spur private sector investment in broadband infrastructure, foster public-private partnerships, recognize the competitive nature of today's telecommunications market and avoid over-regulation.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS REFORM

The Partnership supports updated federal telecommunications laws that reflect the competitive nature of the industry, spur economic development, encourage the deployment of new technologies and services and eliminate federal policies that hinder investment in technology.

CYBERSECURITY

The Partnership recognizes the lack of standards in notifications of consumers after a data breach leads to unnecessary confusion for both the victims of the breach and

payments service providers. Therefore, The Partnership supports efforts at the federal level to bring an uniform minimum standard to the notification of consumers after a breach occurs.