



**March 20, 2024**

Office of Senator Steve Padilla  
State Capitol, Suite 6640  
1021 O Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 893 – “California Artificial Intelligence Research Hub.” (Support)**

Dear Senator Padilla:

On behalf of the Computer & Communications Industry Association (CCIA), I write to express support for SB 893. CCIA is an international, not-for-profit trade association<sup>1</sup> representing a broad cross-section of communications and technology firms. CCIA members take seriously the responsible development of new technologies and the impacts they may have on society.

California has long been at the center of where innovation and technology thrive. CCIA appreciates your dedication to ensuring that California remains a key center for such activities. We believe that, if enacted, SB 893 will lay the foundation to do so by establishing the California Artificial Intelligence Research Hub (hereafter referred to as “the Hub”).

SB 893 outlines several key responsibilities that would fall under the Hub which would allow it to function as a central facilitator that fosters collaboration among government agencies, academic institutions, and private sector partners to drive forward artificial intelligence research and development. The measure also seeks to responsibly support access to and development of artificial intelligence computing capacity by finding ways to reduce costs and other economic barriers research institutions may face in accessing computing infrastructure. CCIA believes this is an effective way to promote innovation for public benefit while providing protections for consumer privacy and promoting equity. We believe that SB 893 strikes the right balance of acknowledging the potential immense benefits of artificial intelligence while also safeguarding privacy, advancing security, and addressing risks and potential harms to society.

CCIA also acknowledges the recent amendments, which ensure lawful access to government data while simultaneously guaranteeing that such access will not compromise the protection of business-sensitive trade secrets. Access to this data is crucial for innovation, and we understand that this addition will protect privacy and safeguard access by developing a streamlined process for researchers to access data collected by state agencies.

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CCIA appreciates the opportunity to work with your Office to craft legislation that fosters innovation for automated systems and related technology, prioritizing user safety, security, and

<sup>1</sup> For over 50 years, CCIA has promoted open markets, open systems, and open networks. CCIA members employ more than 1.6 million workers, invest more than \$100 billion in research and development, and contribute trillions of dollars in productivity to the global economy. A list of CCIA members is available at <https://www.ccianet.org/members>.



equity. We are pleased to endorse this bill and eagerly anticipate future collaboration with your Office on legislation that fosters responsible innovation for digital services.

Sincerely,

Jordan Rodell  
State Policy Manager  
Computer & Communications Industry Association