



January 18, 2002

The Honorable Alex Padilla
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Padilla:

The Greater Coachella Valley Chamber of Commerce is writing to express our concern over a key bill pending before the Senate Judiciary Committee: S. 2992, the "[American Innovation and Choice Online Act](#)." This legislation, and the related bills that passed the House Judiciary Committee last summer, could have a detrimental impact on California's technology sector. The spirit of the legislation and the structure of the bills creates significant unintended consequences. Said consequences will have damaging effects on the digitalization of small businesses. Additionally, the bills will damage technology companies, precluding them from fostering innovations to power small business, and potentially affecting large sectors of workforce.

As you know California's technology sector employs more than 1.8 million individuals and has an estimated economic impact of nearly \$520 billion on California's economy. The limitations proposed in these bills immediately halts tools that the small business community is reliant upon and also that connects consumers directly to small business. Introducing such changes to the technology sector, in this way, at this time will be detrimental to consumers, small businesses, and the technology sector.

The Greater Coachella Valley Chamber of Commerce represents businesses large and small across the Coachella Valley. We know that many of our members are small businesses who could not adapt to the COVID-19 environment without many of the digital innovations that would be eliminated with these bills. And now, with the Omicron surge, businesses continue to struggle and cannot afford further disruptions.

The bill being considered by the Senate Judiciary Committee this week will likely result in unintended impacts on the business community that are otherwise avoidable, and it should not be supported as written. For California and its technology sector, it could have a significant and irreversible impact on companies, workers, and consumers alike.

We hope you and your colleagues will look at smart policy solutions that serve to strengthen, not weaken, California's ability to innovate and lead in the technology marketplace, particularly during such uncertain times.

Thank you for your leadership and your continued effort to do what's right for California.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "C. Collier".

Chris Collier
Senior Policy Consultant