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PADILLA WINS APPROVAL FOR "OPEN ACCESS" POLICY POSITION FOR BROADBAND CABLE INTERNET SERVICE

LOS ANGELES – Councilmember Alex Padilla today won approval for his resolution authorizing the City of Los Angeles to ask federal regulators to mandate that cable companies offering broadband Internet services adopt a policy of "open access."

"This is a victory for consumers in the City of Los Angeles," said Padilla, chair of the City's Information Technology and General Services Committee and a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. "Consumers must have a choice of their Internet service provider whether they access the Internet through telephone lines, wireless services, or cable lines. The public deserves the highest level of service from cable companies offering new technologies, which now include telephone and Internet service in addition to cable television service.

"It is a historic moment to have the second-largest city in America – and the birthplace of the Internet – adopt this pro-consumer, 'open access' policy position," added Padilla. "As clicks Los Angeles, so clicks the nation."

After the Mayor signs the resolution forwarded to him from Council, the City will actively provide policy advice on the matter to the Federal Trade Commission, the Federal Communications Commission, and the California Public Utilities Commission.

The 7th Council District serves the communities of Arleta, Lake View Terrace, Mission Hills, North Hills, North Hollywood, Pacoima, Panorama City, Sun Valley, Sylmar, and Van Nuys.

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