RCRC COUNTIES REPRESENT:

- **13%** of the CA population
- **60%** of CA's land mass
- **Over 80%** of U.S. Forest Service Land in CA

RURAL COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES OF CALIFORNIA

RCRC is a 39-county member services organization that represents the collective unique interests of its membership by:

- Providing legislative and regulatory representation at the state and federal levels
- Providing services to its members to enhance and protect the quality of life in rural California counties
GOLDEN STATE CONNECT AUTHORITY

- Formed Joint Power Authority
  - Increase access to reliable, affordable, high-speed broadband for all rural Californians
    - 39 Member Counties

- Program of Work Includes:
  - Broadband Strategic Planning
  - Capacity Building, Information Sharing
  - Open Access Municipal Broadband Deployment
GOLDEN STATE CONNECT AUTHORITY

Open-Access Municipal Broadband Network

- Community-Focused
- Local Government Led
- Competitive Packages
- Customer Choice

Guiding Principles
- Fiber First
- Capacity – Speed
- Leverage Partnerships & Extend Resources
- Broadband for All
# HISTORIC INVESTMENT IN BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE

(AND IMPORTANT NON-MONETARY WINS, TOO)

**SB 156 – UNANIMOUS APPROVAL – SIGNED BY GOVERNOR JULY 2021**

## HISTORIC $6 BILLION INVESTMENT

- **$3.2 Billion** - Middle Mile
  State-Owned Open Access Network

- **$2 Billion** – Last Mile

- **$750 Million** – Loan Loss Reserve

- **$50 Million** – Local Agency Technical Assistance

## LANDMARK NON-MONETARY ITEMS

- State-Owned & Operated Open Access Middle Mile

- Local Governments Permitted to Own, Operate & Maintain Broadband Networks

- Creation of Loan Loss Reserve Fund

- Technical Assistance Funds Directed to Local Governments
FUNDING OPPORTUNITY
Local Agency Technology Assistance (LATA) Fund

Eligible Projects
- Funds Pre-Development Costs of Local Government, Tribes, or Non-Profits for:
  - Broadband Engineering, Feasibility, Network Design, Studies

Specifics
- $50 Million Program Allocation:
  - Up to $500,000/FY-Ministerial Process, or
  - Up to $1M/FY-Commission Review by Resolution
- Funds 100% of Project Cost on Reimbursement Basis
- Project Completed Within 24 Months (Contractors Selected and Scope Defined)
- Open Application Period Until Funds Exhausted
GOLDEN STATE CONNECT AUTHORITY
Status Update

• Identified Key Partners
  o Experienced Finance Team
  o Operational Partner
  o Local Governments

• Developed Business Evaluative Criteria
  o Includes: access to Middle Mile infrastructure; density; financial analysis; focus on unserved/underserved; competitors and level of service; etc.

• Identified Initial Project Areas
  o Project Area analysis and selection will be on-going

• Preparing for LATA
  o Golden State Connect Authority
  o Member Counties