

April 7, 2021

The Honorable Jay Inslee Office of the Governor Olympia WA 98504

**RE: E2SHB 1274 - Internet Association Requests Signature** 

Dear Governor Inslee:

Internet Association (IA) represents the world's leading internet companies and supports policies that promote and enable internet innovation, including commercial cloud solutions. Our member companies are global leaders in the drive to develop lower cost, more secure, scalable, and innovative cloud services to customers in both the private and public sectors.

On behalf of our members, we are writing to urge you to sign Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1274, which will provide the state's Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) with the authority necessary to give the state's information technology (IT) infrastructure modernization efforts a level of support that is particularly important if Washington is to capitalize on the technical talent the state has fostered.

IA members will be the first to champion the Evergreen State's technical talent. By passing E2SHB 1274, the Washington state government will give their own employees the same tools and capabilities that their family, friends, and neighbors have contributed to or developed themselves - while also helping increase access to services for those who need them.

E2SHB 1274 will be a key component of Washington agencies ensuring they have increased security measures on the systems they use but also will provide them with scalable and innovative options. This will be better for agencies, better for staff and better for the residents of Washington. We were pleased the bill addresses ensuring staff can have the appropriate training to continue their learning and increase of skills. This will harness the talent of the Washington state workforce to best address the needs of all the users and consumers of these services.

IA believes E2SHB 1274 makes sense for Washington agencies, state employees and the residents of the state. IA encourages you to sign E2SHB 1274 into law. Thank you for your consideration.

Most sincerely,

Rose Feliciano

Director, State Government Affairs, Northwest

Omid Ghaffari-Tabrizi, Director, Cloud Policy