

JOINT STATEMENT OF SUPPORT

KONEKTADONG PINOY

A Pro-Filipino, Pro-Consumer, Pro-Competition Bill

JUNE 2025

We, the undersigned organizations, express our full support and call for the immediate enactment of the *Konektadong Pinoy* (Open Access in Data Transmission) bill. We believe this landmark legislation will democratize internet access, which could potentially be this administration's greatest legacy.

We thank and commend President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos, Jr. for his vision and resolute leadership in championing *Konektadong Pinoy*, with his certification of the bill as urgent.

We laud the Senate and the House of Representatives for ratifying the bicameral conference committee report on the proposed *Konektadong Pinoy* Act. We express gratitude to the leadership of both chambers, the bill's authors, the House Committee on Information and Communication Technology, and the Senate Committee on Science and Technology for shepherding the bill through. This crucial step brings us closer to the enactment of this pro-Filipino, pro-consumer, and pro-competition bill, and truly nationwide digital connectivity for all.

The *Konektadong Pinoy* bill enjoys wide support in the Executive Branch. Key government agencies, including the Department of Economy, Planning, and Development (DEPDev); the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT); the Philippine Competition Commission (PCC); the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP); and the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) have all expressed support for the bill. Local government leaders recognize the objective of *Konektadong Pinoy* to narrow the digital divide as essential "to bridge the technological gap, bolster financial inclusion, enhance literacy, and promote economic growth."

Most importantly, *Konektadong Pinoy* is a response to the clamor of citizens and stakeholders from various sectors, who have long been suffering from inaccessible, unreliable, and costly internet services.

In light of the call by certain groups to veto the bill, we would like to reiterate our request to the President to approve *Konektadong Pinoy* and why the Philippines needs this law.

Pro-Filipino. *Konektadong Pinoy* was created to free Filipinos from the shackles of poor internet. The Philippines has been lagging behind on internet connectivity not only in Asia but in the whole world. Latest data shows that 19,000 barangays (or 45.5% of all barangays nationwide) still lack internet access. According to the World Bank, the widening inequality in internet access limits opportunities for Filipinos, making them unequipped for future work, especially digital jobs. The growing digital divide makes e-commerce, e-government, online learning, and AI virtually inaccessible to millions of Filipinos and disadvantaged sectors.

Pro-Consumer. *Konektadong Pinoy* will reduce internet cost, which will have a transformational impact for consumers, as highlighted by the DICT. In 2022, the country was cited as the “most Internet poor” in Southeast Asia, with over 50 million Filipinos not able to afford a basic internet package. Two years later, the Philippines improved but only did better than Laos and Timor-Leste. *Konektadong Pinoy* will enable smaller providers to build infrastructure and offer internet services in their communities, including GIDAs.

Pro-Competition. *Konektadong Pinoy* is “a decisive step toward dismantling barriers” in the data transmission industry, according to the PCC. Outdated and restrictive laws have made it cumbersome and costly for small players, such as cable operators and community internet service providers, as well as new and emerging players, to build and expand broadband networks. The DEPDev asserts that the lack of competition has resulted in “underinvestment in infrastructure” and “poor service delivery.” *Konektadong Pinoy* will change the status quo by promoting competition and stimulating the market, and encouraging investment even in the rural barangays!

Konektadong Pinoy has been thoroughly vetted by Congress and the Executive. The bill has undergone rigorous scrutiny, almost 10 years of deliberations, and various improvements through three Congresses. The strong backing from key stakeholders, including established and reputable organizations from major sectors—including government, business, ICT industry, consumers, and civil society groups—is proof that the bill is truly responsive to the urgent digital needs of the country.

Konektadong Pinoy aims to accelerate the deployment of digital infrastructure by streamlining the licensing process, promoting infrastructure sharing, and allowing new and smaller players to deliver both wired and wireless connectivity without requiring a legislative franchise, an antiquated requirement not found anywhere else in the world. Congress has already made the bold and brave decision to remove this requirement, a sign that it agrees with your vision of a digitally-powered country. Retaining the legislative franchise—described by numerous studies, including that of the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) as a major barrier to entry that stifles innovation and prevents competition—means retaining the status quo and leaving millions of Filipinos behind.

Claims of *Konektadong Pinoy* resulting in security issues are unfounded. The fact is, the bill is the only proposed policy today that requires big and small, local and foreign network providers alike to comply with cybersecurity measures based on internationally recognized standards and as prescribed by the DICT. It mandates a cybersecurity performance audit and makes this a requirement for continuing operation and license renewal. *Konektadong Pinoy* also disallows foreign government-controlled and state-owned enterprises from operating data transmission networks. Finally, the bill requires that national security be taken into consideration in interconnection and access to infrastructure.

We, the 35 signatories to this statement of support, stand ready to contribute to the successful implementation of this historic piece of legislation.

Para sa Konektadong Pinoy!

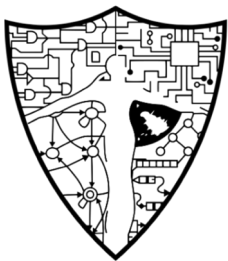
Signed:



Korean Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines, Inc. (KCCP)



Signed:



University of the Philippines
Computer Science Guild



Wiki Society of the Philippines



About the signatories:

Name of Organization	Profile
Alliance of Tech Innovators for the Nation (ATIN)	A multi-stakeholder coalition of technology industry players in the Philippines that promotes inclusive growth and development through the digital economy.
American Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines, Inc. (AMCHAM)	A private, independent, non-profit association that serves as a platform for collaboration among business leaders in the Philippines. AmCham is affiliated with the Chamber of Commerce of the United States (COCUSA) and the AmChams of Asia Pacific (AAP).
Analytics & Artificial Intelligence Association of the Philippines (AAP)	The Philippines’ leading organization for driving the growth and evolution of all Analytics-enabled fields, and AI-enabled fields and technologies. AAP has the most distinguished and active players in the Analytics and AI field working to elevate the country in its application of Analytics and AI best practices.
Asia Open RAN Academy (AORA)	A society of distinguished scholars and scientists that aim to promote and maintain standards in open RAN and the telecommunications industry. AORA aims to benefit stakeholders invested in digital access, equity, and inclusion for nation-building.
Association for Progressive Communications (APC)	An international network of civil society organisations dedicated to empowering and supporting people working for peace, human rights, development and protection of the environment, through the strategic use of information and communications technologies (ICTs).
Better Internet PH (BIP)	A coalition of stakeholders pushing for accessible, reliable, affordable, and secure Internet for all Filipinos.
Canadian Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines, Inc. (CANCHAM)	A non-profit organization that aims to represent, support, and promote Canada-Philippines business interests.
Chief Information Officers (CIO) Forum, Inc. (CIOF)	A professional organization of Government IT executives which facilitates, steers and participates in the formulation of ICT policies and promotes excellence in information management in Government.
Chief Information Officers (CIO) Forum Foundation (CIOFF)	A duly registered non-stock and non-profit organization, organized by and composed of former and incumbent Chief Information Officers (CIOs) and Heads of ICT Departments.
Democracy.net.ph	An ICT rights, governance, development, policy, and security advocacy group
Employers Confederation of the Philippines (ECOP)	The umbrella organization and a single voice for the entire business community on important national issues related to employment, industrial relations, labor issues and related social policies.
European Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines (ECCP)	A bilateral foreign chamber that promotes European interests in the Philippines and vice versa.
Fintech Alliance.PH	The Philippine’s leading and largest association of fintech and digital players, collectively generating over 90% of digital-initiated transactions volume in the country today.
Foundation for Media Alternatives (FMA)	A nonprofit NGO in the Philippines seeking to democratize information and communication systems for citizens and communities.

About the signatories:

Name of Organization	Profile
Institute for Social Entrepreneurship in Asia (ISEA)	A learning and action network set up by social enterprises and social enterprise resource institutions and scholars to catalyze knowledge creation, capacity development and movement-building for social entrepreneurship in the region.
Internet and Technology Association of the Philippines (ITAP)	A non-profit organization representing 350+ non-PTE non-CATV VAS Internet service providers registered under the National Telecommunications Commission, with a membership across Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao serving a total of 500,000+ estimated subscriber households.
Internet Society (ISOC)	A global charitable organization empowering people to keep the Internet a force for good: open, globally connected, secure, and trustworthy. ISOC supports and promotes the development of the Internet as a global technical infrastructure, a resource to enrich people’s lives, and a force for good in society.
Internet Society - Philippines Chapter (ISOC-PH)	The Philippine Chapter of the Internet Society, a global nonprofit organization.
Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Philippines, Inc. (JCCIPI)	A non-profit organization that promotes mutual exchange among member companies operating in the Philippines and provides an avenue to facilitate smooth business operations.
Korean Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines, Inc. (KCCP)	A private, non-stock organization composed of corporations, trade associations, private business persons and/or individuals who are engaged in/with Korean corporations and individuals in the Philippines.
League of Goal Oriented Information and Communications Technologists Inc. (LOGICT)	A national information technology group of Philippine electric cooperatives.
Maharlika Internet Exchange (MaharlikaIX)	A proudly Filipino-built Internet exchange, focused on delivering cost-effective solutions to serve underrepresented providers and make connectivity more affordable and accessible across the Philippines.
MozillaPH	The official Mozilla-supported community initiative in the Philippines, with the mission to build the Internet as a global public resource, open and accessible to all by promoting openness, innovation, and opportunity on the Web.
National Confederation of Cooperatives (NATCCO)	The biggest federation of cooperatives in the Philippines, comprising around 5.1 million individual members coming from 812 co-ops and NGOs, served through 1,975 offices located in 77 provinces and 129 cities all over the country.
National ICT Confederation of the Philippines (NICP)	The recognized national organization of ICT Councils in the Philippines founded by 10 ICT Councils from Metro Clark, Legazpi, Quezon, Bacolod, Cebu, Iloilo, Cagayan De Oro, Davao, Iligan, and Sarangani Province in 2008 to be the recognized national avenue for collaboration, develop the member organizations through the sharing of best practices, among others, and to be the unified voice for the Philippine Information and Communication (ICT) Industry.

About the signatories:

Name of Organization	Profile
Philippine Councilors League (PCL)	An officially-recognized local government league of local legislators at the forefront of contemporary and emerging trends in local administration and development. Dedicated to improving the quality of life of the Filipino people through effective local legislation.
Philippine Exporters Confederation, Inc. (PHILEXPORT)	The country’s umbrella organization of exporters mandated under the Export Development Act of 1994 to strengthen the country’s export industry through its advocacy, export promotion and development programs.
Philippine Institute of Cyber Security Professionals (PICSPRO)	A non-profit organization with three core missions: to educate the community, elevate the skills of cybersecurity professionals, and expand the cybersecurity profession to the provinces.
Provincial Health Officers Association of the Philippines Inc. (PHOAP)	Initially organized in 2003 through the DOH initiative as its local governance partner. PHOAP is acknowledged by PMA as its affiliate organization. The organization was SEC registered as the PHOAPInc last 2019. The members are all Provincial Health Officers and Asst. Provincial Health Officers of all provinces.
PizzaPy - Cebu Python Users Group	A Cebu-based volunteer-run group developers, testers, or individuals centered on the use of the Python programming language.
Samahan ng Nagkakaisang Pamilya ng Pantawid (SNPP)	A grassroots advocacy organization of beneficiary families engaged with the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps), devoted to the improvement and effective implementation of social protection policies, laws, and programs. Committed to enhancing and uplifting the quality of life, in a hope to transition towards progress, development, and breaking the cycle of poverty.
Unconnected.org	A global non-profit organization supporting local Internet Service Providers (ISPs), NGOs, School Consortiums and Governments to deliver long-term, sustainable internet connectivity to remote and low-income communities.
University of the Philippines Computer Science Guild	The premier organization for BS Computer Science students at UP Cebu, creating a vibrant and supportive environment for students to connect with industry professionals, learn from experts in the field, and develop their skills.
User Experience Philippines (UXPH)	The largest non-profit design organization and community in the Philippines with over 9,000 members, on a mission to shape the Filipino design landscape by promoting innovation, collaboration, and continuous learning.
Wiki Society of the Philippines (WikiSocPH)	A volunteer group committed to democratic knowledge creation, distribution, and consumption, supporting and promoting Wikipedia and its sister Wikimedia projects in the Philippines.

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