

Para los niños



**MEDIA
ALLIANCE**



June 8, 2023

The Honorable Josh Newman
Chair, Senate Education Committee
1021 O Street, Room 6740
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Assembly Bill 787 (Gabriel) Digital Citizenship and Media Literacy - SUPPORT

Dear Chair Newman,

The undersigned organizations strongly support AB 787 (Gabriel), which surveys existing efforts and improves access to digital citizenship and media literacy instruction in California schools. The bill has minimal direct cost to the state.

Children are growing up with the power of digital media and technology to explore, connect, create, and learn in new ways. With this power, young people have great opportunities, but they also face challenges and dilemmas. Schools are dealing with the ramifications, including issues such as [online safety](#), [cyberbullying](#), [privacy](#), [hate speech](#), [misinformation](#), and [digital distraction](#). To address these issues, schools are creating a positive culture around media and technology by incorporating digital citizenship education as part of their curricula.

All students need digital citizenship skills to participate fully in their communities and make smart choices online and in life. AB 787 would require educators and school administrators to determine existing instruction of digital citizenship and media literacy in California schools in order to determine the current state of instruction on these topics. California's adoption of a statewide survey and advisory committee on these important topics would ensure California's kids have the skills they need to take control of their digital lives.

We strongly support policies and programs that ensure California's students have access to the skills they need to succeed as digital learners, leaders, and citizens tomorrow. For the above reasons, we respectfully request your "Aye" vote on AB 787.

Sincerely,

Kami Peer, California Policy Manager
Common Sense Media

Tracy Rosenberg, Executive Director
Media Alliance

Dan Nieman, Vice President, External Affairs
Para Los Niños

Maddie Ribble, Policy Director, Social Drivers of Health
The Children's Partnership

David Diaz, MPH; Executive Director
Active San Gabriel Valley