2024 Policy Platform

Tech and Telecom

Policy must evolve alongside rapidly evolving technology in order to protect people's data and civil rights on the digital frontier. No matter how new technologies change everyday life, tech cannot be an equalizer of opportunity when many communities lack access to these tools. Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders need equal access and adequate protection in all matters related to technology and telecommunications.

NCAPA welcomes debate surrounding regulation in these areas, and strongly supports the following principles and recommendations from the communities it represents:

Data Privacy

- Pass comprehensive federal privacy legislation, such as H.R. 8152, the American Data Privacy & Protection Act (ADPPA) of 2022, to protect consumers' ability to determine – with relative ease – how their data is being used and shared.
- The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau must use its regulatory power to investigate the deceptive practices of data brokers and how their practices harm historically marginalized communities.
- Pass robust legislation that governs the usage and sharing of biometric data.
- Technology companies should provide in-language translations – with cultural context in users' preferred language – of all necessary or important consumer information, including terms of service, agreements, disclosures, and helplines.
- Technology companies should shift their technologies away from collecting or sharing consumers' personally identifiable data, and towards using anonymized data.

- Pass federal legislation to protect consumer data and ensure that it cannot be accessed by government entities without first going through an appropriate judicial process.

Algorithmic Bias and Surveillance

- Conduct routine government audits and impact assessments of data-gathering tools and algorithms – including those used for decision-making – to ensure responsible use, anti-discrimination, and equitable outcomes.
- Regulate the ability of private and public entities, including police departments and schools to use facial recognition technology and personally identifiable demographic data.
- Develop detection and mitigation strategies that address biases in artificial intelligence and help inform, and develop, regulatory policies.
- Implement technological best practices that conduct impact assessment, testing, and sandboxing.

Broadband Access

- Make permanent federally subsidized funding that helps low-income households access high-quality broadband internet.
- Require Internet Service Providers to make information about broadband access, relevant helplines, and digital assistance programs – such as the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) and Lifeline – easily accessible in AA and NHPI languages.
- Pass legislation to bridge the Digital Divide and secure funding for internet-capable devices for digital literacy programming; conduct research on the technology needs of AA and NHPI communities

Social Media Platform Accountability

- Social media companies must allocate more resources to fight non-English mis- and disinformation, and ensure that community guidelines, user agreements, and privacy policies are enforced equitably across all languages.
- Companies should move away from piecemeal ad hoc strategies and adopt proactive and comprehensive approaches to content moderation, including centralized mechanisms for targets of harassment and threatened violence to remove internet content.
- Social media companies should provide more support for in-language content moderators and translators, including AA and NHPI languages.