



Proposition 8 – Broadband Amendment Toolkit for November 7 Election

Proposition 8 – HJR 125 "The constitutional amendment creating the broadband infrastructure fund to expand high-speed broadband access and assist in the financing of connectivity projects."

OVERVIEW

The Digital Texas Coalition is asking for your help getting the word out about Prop 8.

On November 7, Texas voters will decide on the creation of the Broadband Infrastructure Fund. If voters approve, \$1.5 billion will be released to the Texas Comptroller to support broadband. These funds have already been set aside by the Legislature, but they can't be used without voter approval. These funds are critical to expanding broadband access and adoption in Texas.

TAKE ACTION

We need everyone to help spread the word about the importance of Prop 8 by taking two simple actions:

1. Email your distribution lists with the call to action pasted below.
2. Post on your social media accounts using the attached graphics and language.

Your engagement makes a difference, and these two simple actions will have an impact.

EMAIL COPY TO SEND TO YOUR DISTRIBUTION LISTS

Dear Partners,

Over 7 million Texans lack access to affordable, reliable high-speed internet. We have good news to share with you.

On November 7, Texas voters can approve Proposition 8, creating a \$1.5 billion Broadband Infrastructure Fund. If voters approve Prop 8, these funds will be released to the Texas Comptroller to support broadband.

This is not a new tax! These funds have already been set aside by the Texas Legislature but cannot be used without voter approval. Please support Prop 8 and help us spread the word!

SOCIAL MEDIA GRAPHICS TO SHARE ONLINE

Use the images below on social media with one of the following messages:

- Vote YES on Prop 8! Early voting starts Oct. 23.
- Election Day is Nov. 7! Vote YES on Prop 8.

HASHTAGS

Use these hashtags when you post:

#txlege #broadband #broadbandforall #connectTX

SOCIAL MEDIA GRAPHICS TO SHARE ONLINE

We have created a variety of images representing education, healthcare, digital divide, emergency services.

[Click here to download an image to share.](#)



INFORMATION & RESOURCES

- Questions? Email info@digitaltexas.org with any questions or concerns.
- Download the toolkit at <https://www.digitaltexas.org/prop8>.

TALKING POINTS BY THEME

We've developed talking points for your emails, interviews, and op-eds. They are grouped by themes:

1. Closing the Digital Divide
2. Public Safety
3. Providing Resources for Schools
4. Increasing Healthcare Access

Talking Points – Theme 1: Closing The Digital Divide

- Nearly 3 million Texas households and over 7 million Texans lack access to affordable, reliable high-speed internet. The Broadband Infrastructure Fund will provide financing for projects that ensure all Texans have access to the economic and social benefits of broadband. Support Prop 8.
- If approved, Prop 8 will create the Broadband Infrastructure Fund, providing the infrastructure needed for all Texans to participate in the 21st Century digital economy.
- The Broadband Infrastructure Fund will help us close the digital divide. It will bring rural and underserved Texans online while also increasing access to the internet in economically distressed communities. Support Prop 8.
- Equitable access to reliable, high-speed broadband provides economic opportunities to all Texans. The creation of the Broadband Infrastructure Fund will help close the digital divide across our state. Support Prop 8.
- We urge support for Prop 8, which will establish the Broadband Infrastructure Fund to expand access to and adoption of broadband service across the state.

Talking Points – Theme 2: Public Safety

- If approved by voters, the Broadband Infrastructure Fund will help finance the expansion of emergency services communications in Texas, including funding 9-1-1 improvements and deploying Next Generation 9-1-1 services.
- If Prop 8 succeeds, around \$155 million will be transferred into the Next Generation 9-1-1 Services Fund to help finance public safety improvements.
- Voting YES on Prop 8 is a vote for more resilient public safety infrastructure in Texas.

Talking Points – Theme 3: Providing Resources for Schools

- To be successful in the workforce of tomorrow, students need access to the digital technology that lets them create, design, and explore. This November, voters can move broadband infrastructure projects forward by supporting Prop 8.
- Access to technology is essential for daily student success, but too many students in K-12 and higher education lack access to broadband internet service. Support Prop 8 to bridge the digital divide in education across Texas.
- Inadequate broadband infrastructure is a fundamental barrier to learning in rural areas. Prop 8 establishes the Broadband Infrastructure Fund and will help build and sustain the core digital infrastructure needed for learning.

Talking Points – Theme 4: Increasing Healthcare Access

- Telehealth reduces health care costs and improves health outcomes, but the digital divide prevents telehealth services from reaching those who need them most. If voters approve Prop 8, we can deliver the technology and infrastructure needed to increase access to health care across Texas.
- Access to broadband is essential for healthcare. Prop 8 would help us get one step closer to ensuring broadband – and quality healthcare – is available to all Texans.
- Reliable internet connection is vital for staying connected with medical providers, from virtual doctor visits to accessing essential services. Prop 8 will fund the broadband projects we need for telehealth and access to non-emergency medical care.