



TECHNET
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TechNet Names Laura Bennett as its Executive Director for California and the Southwest

Washington, D.C. — TechNet, the national, bipartisan network of innovation economy CEOs and senior executives, today announced the appointment of Laura Bennett as its Executive Director for California and the Southwest. Based in Sacramento, Bennett will oversee TechNet’s state advocacy and political activities in California, Arizona, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico, and Utah.

In making this announcement, Linda Moore, president and CEO of TechNet, said: **“We are excited to welcome Laura to the TechNet team. Many of our nation’s most important technology policy debates are playing out in Sacramento and state capitals across the southwest. With the addition of Laura’s deep policy and advocacy experience, TechNet is well positioned to continue fighting and winning these debates on behalf of the innovation industry.”**

Bennett joins TechNet from Verizon, where she was based in Sacramento and served, most recently, as Manager of State Government Affairs. During her 12-year tenure at Verizon, Bennett worked on state legislative and regulatory policy issues including privacy, telecommunications, procurement, and general business issues. In addition to her policy work at Verizon, Bennett also worked with local community-based organizations in the strategic initiative areas of STEM, health, sustainability, and domestic violence prevention and awareness.

Bennett is the latest addition to TechNet’s 50-state advocacy program, which is impacting legislative and regulatory debates across the country. Led by Andrea Deveau, the state program includes Joanie Deutsch, executive director, Washington and the Northwest; Caroline Joiner, executive director, Texas and the Southeast; and Matthew Mincieli, executive director, Massachusetts and the Northeast. TechNet’s state executive directors engage on a range of technology policy issues, including the gig and sharing economies, energy, tax, cybersecurity, privacy, computer science education, and the expansion of broadband.

“I am thrilled to join TechNet and its highly effective 50-state advocacy team,” added Bennett. **“California and the southwest are home to some of the most innovative technology companies in the world, and it is critical that these companies have their voices heard in the policy debates taking place in this region. I look forward to continuing to engage with lawmakers to advance policies that foster innovation and promote growth in the technology industry.”**

Bennett is a native Californian and graduated from California State University, Sacramento and Lincoln Law School of Sacramento.

TechNet’s network of 72 members includes: Apple, Facebook, Oracle, Microsoft, Google, Cisco, Lyft, Uber, Airbnb, Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers, Bloom Energy, eBay, and Nasdaq, among others. A full list of TechNet members is available [here](#).

About TechNet

TechNet is the national, bipartisan network of technology CEOs and senior executives that promotes the growth of the innovation economy by advocating a targeted policy agenda at the federal and 50-state level. TechNet’s diverse membership includes dynamic startups to the most iconic companies on the planet and represents more than two million employees in the fields of information technology, e-commerce, advanced energy, biotechnology, venture capital, and finance. TechNet has offices in Washington, D.C., Silicon Valley, San Francisco, Sacramento, Austin, Boston, Seattle, Albany, and Tallahassee.

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