

FOURSQUARE

568 Broadway, 10th Floor, New York, NY 10012

March 16, 2015

Honorable Mark Leno
State Capitol, Room 5100
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 178 (Leno) - Support

Dear Senator Leno


Foursquare Labs, Inc. is writing to express our support of SB 178 – The California Electronic Communications Privacy Act.

It is well known that privacy laws have not kept up with the modern digital age. Fifteen states, including Utah, Maine and Texas have taken steps to enact legislation that extends basic civil protections to all forms of electronic data. In recent years California has been a leader when it comes to so many important issues relating to the privacy rights of its citizens. But it is falling behind here. California can change that with SB 178.

Users of online services, like Foursquare's Foursquare® and Swarm™ services, trust their information to these services, with the expectation that these services will protect their data. But law enforcement has taken advantage of outdated privacy laws to get access to sensitive electronic data from the providers of these services.

SB 178 will require law enforcement to go to a judge to get a warrant before they can access data from an online service provider, like Foursquare. We believe that SB 178 provides the right balance between strong privacy protections for California's citizens and allowing law enforcement access to effective tools to protect the public's safety.

Sincerely,



Brian Chase, General Counsel
Foursquare Labs, Inc.

