

Digital Equity Policy Under Siege

The May 2025 termination of \$2.75 billion in Digital Equity Act grants, and the court fight that followed.

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\$2.75 Billion Terminated. The Fight Moved to Court.

The Digital Equity Act's three grant programs were terminated in May 2025

\$2.75B

Total Digital Equity Act Funding, TERMINATED MAY 2025

\$1.44B

State Capacity Grants
State implementation funding

\$1.25B

Competitive Grants
\$250M per year, FY2022-FY2026

\$60M

Planning Grants
State plans completed and approved by
NTIA

Announced May 8, 2025 on Truth Social. 22 states filed suit in June 2025.

In July 2026 a federal court allowed NDIA's lawsuit over the \$1.25B Competitive Grant Program to continue, denying the government's motion to dismiss in part. The case is ongoing.

Defending Digital Equity Infrastructure

- **Challenge rescission through congressional oversight** and legal action, protecting appropriated funds from executive branch overreach and ensuring legislative intent is honored.
- **Restore Digital Equity Act funding** through reappropriation or standalone legislation, reinstating the State Capacity, Competitive, and Planning Grant programs.
- **Protect completed state digital equity plans** by encouraging states to adopt them as state policy frameworks, independent of federal funding streams.
- **Encourage state level digital equity funds** using lottery proceeds, USF contributions, or broadband franchise fees to create sustainable, locally controlled equity programs.
- **Create a federal digital equity trust fund** insulated from annual appropriations and executive action, ensuring long term stability for digital inclusion investments.

How AGI Affinity Can Help

AGI Affinity assists states and municipalities in preserving their digital equity planning investments through the **TSDOH Assessment Matrix**. We help translate completed state digital equity plans into actionable frameworks, identify alternative funding sources, and build coalitions that sustain digital equity work regardless of federal policy shifts.

SOURCES

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society, "One Year Without the Digital Equity Act," May 15, 2026 | Benton Institute for Broadband & Society, "22 States Filed a New Suit Challenging the Trump Administration. What Does it Mean for Broadband?," June 27, 2025 | National Digital Inclusion Alliance, "The Fight for Full Inclusion Continues: NDIA Responds to the Latest Digital Equity Act Ruling," July 18, 2026 (the ruling also severed racial and ethnic minorities as a covered population)