

— SECTION 04

Digital Equity Policy Under Siege

The termination of \$2.75 billion in Digital Equity Act funding erased the first comprehensive federal framework for digital inclusion.

Dr. Troy Nash & Arielle Nash, Co Founders



\$2.75 Billion Terminated. Three Years Destroyed.

Digital Equity Act rescission eliminated the first federal digital inclusion framework

\$2.75B

Total Digital Equity Act Funding — TERMINATED

\$1.44B

State Capacity Grants
Implementation funding for 56
states/territories

\$1.25B

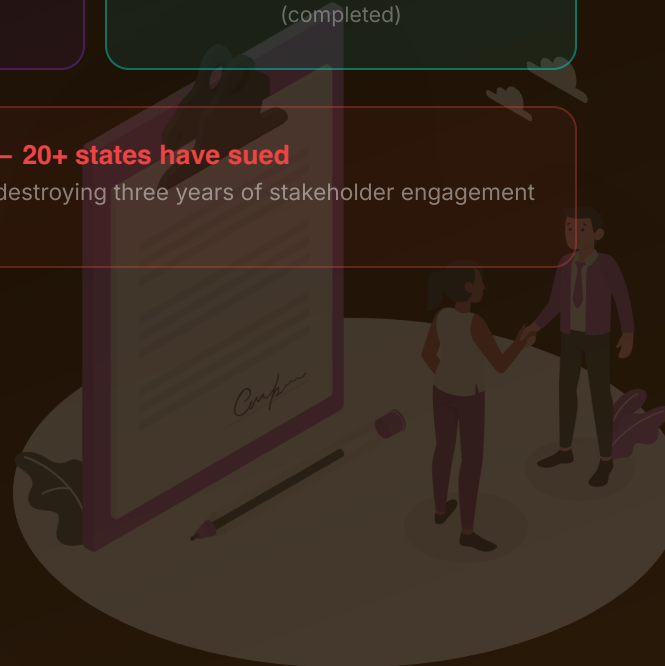
Competitive Grants
Local governments, nonprofits, anchor
institutions

\$60M

Planning Grants
State digital equity plan development
(completed)

Terminated May 8, 2025 via social media post — 20+ states have sued

State digital equity plans across all 56 states and territories voided overnight, destroying three years of stakeholder engagement and community planning



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 voided federal plans into actionable state frameworks, identify alternative funding sources, and build coalitions that sustain digital equity work regardless of federal policy shifts.

SOURCES

NTIA Digital Equity Act Program Documentation | Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Public Law 117-58 (2021) | Benton Institute for Broadband & Society, "Digital Equity Act Analysis" (2025) | National Digital Inclusion Alliance (NDIA) | State Broadband Office Coalition Reports