

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

September 20, 2023

Dear President Biden, Speaker McCarthy, Leader Schumer, Leader Jeffries, and Leader McConnell:

As members of the Rural Broadband Caucus, we write to urge you to extend funding for the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP).

High speed broadband has the potential to revolutionize the way rural populations live their lives. Many families, students and businesses in rural areas struggle to gain access to key services such as telemedicine, distance-learning, online banking and grant applications that help small businesses compete in the twenty-first century.

The Affordable Connectivity Program has provided financial assistance for critical broadband access to nearly 21 million Americans. This program has great success in providing rural, urban and suburban families, Pell Grant recipients and veterans across the country affordable high-speed broadband. The ACP provides eligible households with up to \$30 per month towards their internet bills, and provides households in some rural, insular and tribal areas with up to \$75 per month towards their internet bills. In addition, the program provides a one-time subsidy of \$100 towards desktops, laptops or tablet computers for children and families.

At current funding projections, the ACP will be depleted in early 2024, putting those millions of Americans who rely on the program at risk of losing broadband access. The ACP is a valuable tool in connecting every American to high-speed, affordable broadband, and is in urgent need of additional funding. The continuation of the ACP will improve the economic case for deployment and reaffirm our continued commitment to provide broadband service to millions of unserved and undersold households.

We urge you to support funding for the Affordable Connectivity Program as we explore new funding mechanisms to remove this program from the traditional appropriations process. We cannot risk our most vulnerable constituents losing access to the internet services they so depend.

Sincerely,



Angie Craig
Member of Congress



Robert J. Wittman
Member of Congress



Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress



Chris Pappas
Member of Congress



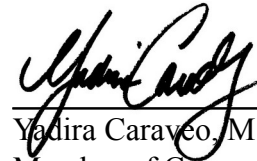
Sharice L. Davids
Member of Congress



Elissa Slotkin
Member of Congress



David G. Valadao
Member of Congress



Yadira Caraveo, M.D.
Member of Congress



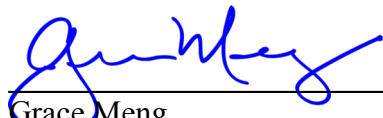
Joe Neguse
Member of Congress



Brian K. Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress



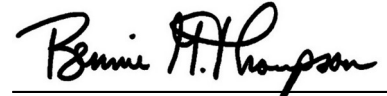
Teresa Leger Fernández
Member of Congress



Grace Meng
Member of Congress



Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress



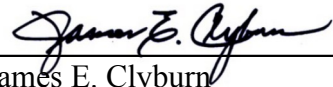
Bennie G. Thompson
Member of Congress



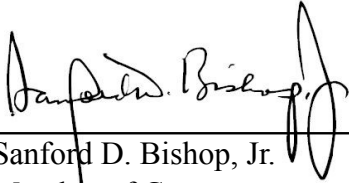
Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



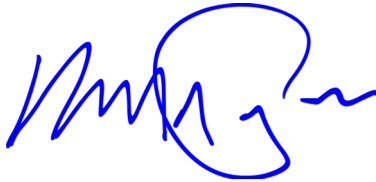
Matt Cartwright
Member of Congress



James E. Clyburn
Member of Congress



Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress



Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



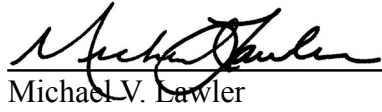
Stacey E. Plaskett
Member of Congress



Jim Tokuda
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



Michael V. Lawler
Member of Congress



Don Bacon
Member of Congress



Mike Thompson
Member of Congress