

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE LEAGUE OF ARIZONA CITIES AND TOWNS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SUPPORTING THE CONTINUATION OF THE AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM (ACP) AND URGING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE FUNDING SUFFICIENT TO MEET THE NEED OF QUALIFYING AMERICANS.

WHEREAS, in 2021, as part of the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act's historic investment in broadband infrastructure and digital equity, Congress appropriated more than fourteen billion dollars for the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP); and

WHEREAS, Congress assigned the Federal Communications Commission to administer the ACP, the successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit, which helped almost nine million households afford internet access during the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, under the ACP, eligible households can receive up to thirty dollars per month discount toward internet services and up to seventy-five dollars per month for households on qualifying tribal lands; and

WHEREAS, eligible households may also receive a one-time discount of up to one hundred dollars to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers; and

WHEREAS, Arizonans have received over \$180M in assistance from ACP, ensuring families needing critical internet access are not denied due to limited income; and

WHEREAS, additional federal programs like the Digital Equity Plan and the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment Program will work bring access to reliable, high-speed internet access to all of Arizona, but do not address the affordability of that access; and

WHEREAS, based on current take rates, the more than fourteen billion dollars in funding appropriated for the ACP program could be exhausted in 2024; and

WHEREAS, the ACP has been a critical tool in helping bridge the "digital divide" that exists between those who have access to modern information and communications technology and those who do not.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the League of Arizona Cities and Towns, does hereby express its support for the continuation of the ACP and urge the federal government to provide funding sufficient to meet the need of qualifying Americans, and ensure that low-income Arizona households can continue to receive the support they need to participate in the digital arena.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the League of Arizona Cities and Towns Executive Committee, this 9th day of November 2023.

Mayor Douglas Nicholls, League President