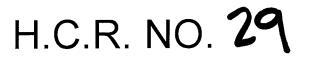
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2024 STATE OF HAWAII



HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO SUPPORT CONTINUED FUNDING OF THE AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM.

1 2 3 4	WHEREAS, Hawaii continues to support efforts to extend the Affordable Connectivity Program, the successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit, to continue providing Hawaii residents with access to affordable broadband services; and
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6	WHEREAS, the United States Congress assigned the Federal
7	Communications Commission to administer the Affordable
8	Connectivity Program, which helped almost nine million
9	households to afford internet access during the coronavirus 2019
10	pandemic; and
11	
12	WHEREAS, under the Affordable Connectivity Program,
13	eligible households on qualifying tribal lands receive a
14	discount of up to \$75 per month for broadband services while
15	other eligible households may receive a discount of up to \$30
16	per month on broadband services; and
17	
18	WHEREAS, eligible households may also receive a one-time
19	discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer,
20	or tablet from participating providers; and
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22	WHEREAS, in areas of the State in which broadband is
23	available, the Affordable Connectivity Program allows
24	subscribers to afford internet speeds and devices sufficient for
25	key online activities, such as at-home learning, health care,
26	banking, and public services; and
27	
28	WHEREAS, in areas of the State in which broadband is not
29	available, the Affordable Connectivity Program incentivizes the
30	deployment of new broadband infrastructure; and
31	



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, WHEREAS, the State also receives funding through the 1 Affordable Connectivity Program to develop, implement, and 2 improve broadband infrastructure, provide devices to certain 3 residents, and promote the adoption of technology in areas of 4 the State that have fewer broadband service opportunities; and 5 6 WHEREAS, the Affordable Connectivity Program catalyzes 7 economic growth, workforce development, and innovation in the 8 State; and 9 10 WHEREAS, thousands of Hawaii residents benefit from the 11 Affordable Connectivity Program, but they are at risk of losing 12 broadband service in 2024 if the United States Congress does not 13 fund an extension of the program; and 14 15 WHEREAS, allowing the Affordable Connectivity Program to 16 end will be a great disservice to those who rely on the program 17 to access vital online services and resources; now, therefore, 18 19 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 20 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular 21 Session of 2024, the Senate concurring, that the United States 22 Congress is urged to support continued funding of the Affordable 23 24 Connectivity Program to ensure that low-income households in the State may continue to access vital online services and 25 resources; and 26 27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this 28 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the 29 United States, Majority Leader of the United States Senate, 30 Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and 31 members of Hawaii's congressional delegation. 32 33 34 35

OFFERED BY:

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