# Renew the ACP for 23M Households Facing Digital Cliff.

Congress established the Affordable
Connectivity Program (ACP) in the bipartisan
Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA),
allocating \$14.25 billion to ensure broadband
would be affordable to all. The ACP bridges the
broadband affordability gap, which is two-thirds
of our nation's digital divide, and keeps 17
million households offline.

23 million households who currently rely on the ACP to get internet service and stay online face an imminent digital cliff. Unfortunately, ACP funding is projected to run out in the first half of 2024. If Congress does not prioritize adequate and sustained funding for the ACP this year, those families will soon see a spike in their internet bill and many will likely lose service entirely. This would occur just as states prepare to make the most significant broadband investments in history using their Broadband Access, Equity, and Deployment (BEAD) allocation.

Internet Access Is No Longer a Luxury. It's a Necessity. The ACP can keep millions of Americans connected to the digital economy, education, healthcare, the social safety net, and critical government services.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition is a group of over 30 organizations representing non-profits, broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that close the digital divide.

Please take urgent action to renew this popular program with bipartisan support.

## Illinois

# 23 MILLION

**U.S. HOUSEHOLDS** rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program.



705K HOUSEHOLDS IN YOUR STATE

are already enrolled in the ACP.



1M HOUSEHOLDS IN YOUR STATE

are still eligible but have yet to enroll in the ACP.

At current enrollment rates.

**41%** OF THE ELIGIBLE POPULATION

in your district will be enrolled by **2024**.



Renew the ACP to CLOSE THE DIGITAL 2M people in your state.



# **Contact**Abbey Roudebush

Director of Government Affairs & Policy abbey@educationsuperhighway.org



Millions more Americans will be left on the wrong side of the digital divide.

Without the ACP. **23M** U.S. HOUSEHOLDS will face an unexpected jump in their broadband bill next year.



# In Illinois:

An estimated **33K** VETERAN **HOUSEHOLDS** are enrolled in the ACP.

**32K** are eligible but still unconnected.

An estimated **66K HOUSEHOLDS IN RURAL AREAS** are enrolled in the ACP.

**114K** are eligible but still unconnected.

An estimated **638K HOUSEHOLDS IN URBAN AREAS** are enrolled in the ACP.

**569K** are eligible but still unconnected.

An estimated 47K HOUSEHOLDS WITH INCOME BELOW THE FEDERAL POVERTY LINE are enrolled in the ACP.

**42K** are eligible but still unconnected.

An estimated **258K** BLACK AND LATINX HOUSEHOLDS are enrolled in the ACP.

**222K** are eligible but still unconnected.

An estimated **127K** senior **HOUSEHOLDS** are enrolled in the ACP.

**201K** are eligible but still unconnected.

The Affordable Connectivity Program is a bipartisan success story. 44% of enrollees live in Republican congressional districts, and 55% in Democratic congressional districts.



Access to home internet increases the annual income of an under-resourced American household by **\$2,200**.

Majorities in both parties support the ACP:

**64%** of REPUBLICANS and **95%** OF DEMOCRATS.



The success of the \$42.45 billion **BEAD** program is inextricably linked to the ACP.



State broadband leaders must design buildout and procurement opportunities that require participants to participate in the ACP.

**Broadband Providers** are factoring ACP into their decisions to extend networks into rural communities.

\$1,040,420,752 in grants have been invested in Illinois to support ACP and BEAD efforts.

### Our Mission

EducationSuperHighway is a national non-profit with the mission to close the digital divide for the 17 million households that have access to the internet but can't afford to connect. From 2012-2020 we led the effort that closed the classroom connectivity gap, connecting 49 million students to high-speed internet in schools.