

NO HOME LEFT OFFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Mike Dunleavy
Governor of Alaska
550 West 7th Avenue,
Suite 1700
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Governor Dunleavy,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 17,000 Alaskan families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Alaskans will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Alaska prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 17,429 Alaskan families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Alaska, this number is 45%. Put another way, for every 10 Alaskan families who do not have home internet, for 4 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **17,429 Alaskan families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Alaska’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Alaskans – an estimated \$1,017,139,672 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17, <https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

outreach efforts. In fact, the School Broadband Assistance Grant and the Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc. recently received \$6.2 million and \$500,000 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if ACP funding ran out. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 17,429 families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition
SmartWAVE Technologies

⁴ <https://gov.alaska.gov/admin-orders/administrative-order-no-322/>

Sonic

Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)

The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)

US Ignite

Volunteers of America National Services

Westchester Library System

Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT OFFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Katie Hobbs
Governor of Arizona
1700 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Governor Hobbs,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 400,000 Arizona families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Arizonians will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Arizona prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 414,778 Arizona families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Arizona, this number is 65%. Put another way, for every 10 Alabama families who do not have home internet, for 6 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **414,778 Arizona families and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Arizona’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Arizonians – an estimated \$993,112,231 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, Promise Arizona and Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc.

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17, <https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

recently received \$251,000 and \$715,000 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if ACP funding ran out. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 414,778 families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition

SmartWAVE Technologies

Sonic

Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)

The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)

US Ignite

Volunteers of America National Services

Westchester Library System

Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT FFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Sarah Huckabee Sanders
Governor of Arkansas
500 Woodlane St.
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Governor Sanders,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 175,000 Arkansas families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Arkansans will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Arkansas prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 175,041 Arkansas families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Arkansas, this number is 52%. Put another way, for every 10 Arkansas families who do not have home internet, for 5 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **175,041 Arkansas families and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Arkansas Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Arkansans – an estimated \$1,024,303,993 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences and

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17, <https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

Heartland Forward recently received \$450,000 and \$400,000 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if the ACP is not reauthorized. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 175,041 Arkansas families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
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Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition
SmartWAVE Technologies
Sonic

⁴ <https://commerce.arkansas.gov/arkansas-to-receive-over-1b-to-expand-broadband-in-state/>

Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)
The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
US Ignite
Volunteers of America National Services
Westchester Library System
Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT FFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 2 million California families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Californians will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as California prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 2,152,095 California families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In California, this number is 63%. Put another way, for every 10 California families who do not have home internet, for 6 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **2,152,095 California families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of California Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Californians – an estimated \$1,864,136,508 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, the California Emerging Technology Fund and the

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17, <https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

Community Action Partnership of Sonoma County recently received \$490,000 and \$200,000 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if the ACP is not reauthorized. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 2,152,095 California families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
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Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
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Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council

Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition
SmartWAVE Technologies
Sonic
Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)
The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
US Ignite
Volunteers of America National Services
Westchester Library System
Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT FFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Jared Polis
Governor of Colorado
200 E. Colfax
Denver, CO 80203-1716

Dear Governor Polis,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 200,000 Colorado families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Coloradans will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Colorado prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 204,377 Colorado families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Colorado, this number is 59%. Put another way, for every 10 Colorado families who do not have home internet, for 5 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **204,377 Colorado families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Colorado Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Coloradans— an estimated \$826,522,650 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, the Denver Community Ventures and Hunger Free

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17, <https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

Colorado recently received \$125,000 and \$110,000 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if the ACP is not reauthorized. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 204,377 Colorado families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

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County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
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Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
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US Ignite

Volunteers of America National Services

Westchester Library System

Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT FFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Ned Lamont
Governor of Connecticut
210 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Governor Lamont,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 150,000 Connecticut families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Connecticut residents will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Connecticut prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 152,014 Connecticut families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Connecticut, this number is 79%. Put another way, for every 10 Connecticut families who do not have home internet, for 7 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **152,014 Connecticut families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Connecticut’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Connecticut residents – an estimated \$144,180,792 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, the Town of East Hartford and the City of New Haven

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17, <https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

recently received \$250,000 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if the ACP is not reauthorized. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 152,014 Connecticut families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition

SmartWAVE Technologies

Sonic

Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)

The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)

US Ignite

Volunteers of America National Services

Westchester Library System

Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT OFFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable John Carney
Governor of Delaware
Tatnall Building
150 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd South
Dover, DE 19901

Dear Governor Carney,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 38,000 Delaware families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Delawareans will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Delaware prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 38,854 Delaware families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Delaware, this number is 80%. Put another way, for every 10 Delaware families who do not have home internet, for 8 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **38,854 Delaware families and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Delaware’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Delawareans – an estimated \$107,748,384 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to

² Insert IJJA USC citation

³ See Figure 17,

<https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 38,854 Delaware families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition
SmartWAVE Technologies
Sonic
Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)

The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
US Ignite
Volunteers of America National Services
Westchester Library System
Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT FFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Ron DeSantis
Governor of Florida
400 S Monroe St,
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Governor DeSantis,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 1.3 million Florida families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Floridians will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Florida prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 1,311,707 Florida families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Florida, this number is 69%. Put another way, for every 10 Florida families who do not have home internet, for 6 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **1,311,707 Florida families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Florida’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Floridians – an estimated \$1,169,947,392 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, the Community Health of South Florida, Inc. and

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17, <https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

Blueprint2000Beyond recently received \$450,000 and \$214,355 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if the ACP is not reauthorized. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 1,311,707 Florida families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition

SmartWAVE Technologies

Sonic

Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)

The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)

US Ignite

Volunteers of America National Services

Westchester Library System

Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT OFFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Brian Kemp
Governor of Georgia
206 Washington Street
111 State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Governor Kemp,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 614,000 Georgia families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Georgians will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Georgia prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 614,554 Georgia families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Georgia, this number is 58%. Put another way, for every 10 Georgia families who do not have home internet, for 5 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **614,554 Georgia families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Georgia’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Georgians – an estimated \$1,307,214,371 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17, <https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

outreach efforts. In fact, the Blackbottom Group and the Diversity Cyber Council recently received \$500,000 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if the ACP is not reauthorized. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 614,554 Georgia families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council

Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition
SmartWAVE Technologies
Sonic
Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)
The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
US Ignite
Volunteers of America National Services
Westchester Library System
Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT FFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Josh Green
Governor of Hawaii
Executive Chambers, State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Governor Green,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 45,155 Hawaii families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Hawaiians will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Hawaii prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 45,155 Hawaii families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Hawaii, this number is 69%. Put another way, for every 10 Hawaii families who do not have home internet, for 6 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **45,155 Hawaii families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Hawaii’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Hawaiians – an estimated \$149,484,493 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, the Elepaio Social Services and the Department of

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17, <https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

Business, Economic Development and Tourism recently received \$350,000 and \$740,000 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if the ACP is not reauthorized. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 45,155 Hawaii families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council

Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition
SmartWAVE Technologies
Sonic
Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)
The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
US Ignite
Volunteers of America National Services
Westchester Library System
Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT OFFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Brad Little
Governor of Idaho
State Capitol
PO Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720

Dear Governor Little,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 40,000 Idaho families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Idahoans will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Idaho prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 40,462 Idaho families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Idaho, this number is 49%. Put another way, for every 10 Idaho families who do not have home internet, for 4 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **40,462 Idaho families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Idaho’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Idahoans – an estimated \$583,256,249 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17, <https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

outreach efforts. In fact, the Nez Perce Tribe recently received \$280,641 in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if the ACP is not reauthorized. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 40,462 Idaho families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition
SmartWAVE Technologies
Sonic

⁴ <https://gov.idaho.gov/pressrelease/gov-little-signs-idaho-first-broadband-investments-into-law/>

Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)
The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
US Ignite
Volunteers of America National Services
Westchester Library System
Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT FFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable J.B. Pritzker
Governor of Illinois
555 W. Monroe St., 16th Floor
Chicago, IL 60661

Dear Governor Pritzker,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 543,000 Illinois families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Illinoisans will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Illinois prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 543,867 Illinois families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Illinois, this number is 63%. Put another way, for every 10 Illinois families who do not have home internet, for 6 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **543,867 Illinois families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Illinois' Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Illinoisans – an estimated \$1,040,420,751 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, SGA Youth & Family Services and the Young Men’s

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17, <https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

Christian Association of Chicago recently received \$360,000 and \$120,994 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if the ACP is not reauthorized. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 543,867 Illinois families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition
SmartWAVE Technologies
Sonic

⁴ <https://www.illinois.gov/news/press-release.26635.html>

Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)
The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
US Ignite
Volunteers of America National Services
Westchester Library System
Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT OFFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Eric Holcomb
Governor of Indiana
200 W Washington St,
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Governor Holcomb,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 347,000 Illinois families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Indianans will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Indiana prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 347,352 Indiana families families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In INdiana, this number is 59%. Put another way, for every 10 Indiana families who do not have home internet, for 5 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **347,352 Indiana families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Indiana’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Indianans – an estimated \$868,109,929 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, the City of South Bend and the Legacy Foundation, Inc.

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17, <https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

recently received \$300,000 and \$125,000 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if the ACP is not reauthorized. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 347,352 Indiana families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition
SmartWAVE Technologies
Sonic

⁴ https://events.in.gov/event/gov_holcomb_announces_189_million_for_broadband_expansion

Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)
The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
US Ignite
Volunteers of America National Services
Westchester Library System
Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT OFFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Kim Reynolds
Governor of Iowa
1007 East Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50319

Dear Governor Reynolds,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 97,000 Iowa families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Iowans will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Iowa prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 97,482 Iowa families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Iowa, this number is 59%. Put another way, for every 10 Iowa families who do not have home internet, for 5 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **97,482 Iowa families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Iowa's Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Iowans – an estimated \$415,331,313 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that's in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, the Muscatine Municipal Housing Authority recently

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17, <https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

received \$83,234 in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if the ACP is not reauthorized. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 97,482 Iowa families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition
SmartWAVE Technologies

Sonic

Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)

The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)

US Ignite

Volunteers of America National Services

Westchester Library System

Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT FFLINE

July 15, 2023

The Honorable Laura Kelly
Governor of Kansas
Capitol, 300 SW 10th Ave., Ste. 241S
Topeka, KS 66612-1590

Dear Governor Kelly,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 105,000 Kansas families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Kansans will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Kansas prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 105,575 Kansas families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Kansas, this number is 60%. Put another way, for every 10 Kansas families who do not have home internet, for 6 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **105,575 Kansas families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Kansas' Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Kansans— an estimated \$451,725,998 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that's in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, Wichita State university and City of Topeka recently

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17, <https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

received \$409,800 and \$90,200 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if the ACP is not reauthorized. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 105,575 Kansas families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition

SmartWAVE Technologies

Sonic

Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)

The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)

US Ignite

Volunteers of America National Services

Westchester Library System

Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT OFFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Andy Beshear
Governor of Kentucky
700 Capitol Avenue Suite 100
Frankfort, KY 40601

Dear Governor Beshear,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 381,000 Kentucky families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Kentuckian will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Kentucky prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 381,758 Iowa families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Kentucky, this number is 55%. Put another way, for every 10 Kentucky families who do not have home internet, for 5 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **381,758 Kentucky families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Kentucky’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Kentuckians – an estimated \$1,086,172,536 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, Shaping Our Appalachian Region, Inc. (SOAR) recently

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17, <https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

received \$500,000 in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if the ACP is not reauthorized. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 381,758 Kentucky families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition

⁴

<https://apnews.com/article/politics-technology-kentucky-internet-service-providers-895b0bb429a889f10453645f65b928c6>

SmartWAVE Technologies

Sonic

Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)

The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)

US Ignite

Volunteers of America National Services

Westchester Library System

Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT OFFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable John Bel Edwards
Governor of Louisiana
PO Box 94004
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Dear Governor Edwards,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 445,000 Louisiana families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Louisianans will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Louisiana prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 445,059 Louisiana families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Louisiana, this number is 65%. Put another way, for every 10 Louisiana families who do not have home internet, for 6 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **445,059 Louisiana families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Louisiana’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Louisianans – an estimated \$1,355,554,552 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, the City of New Orleans and the Imperial Calcasieu

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17, <https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

Regional Planning and Development Commission recently received \$370,950 and \$150,000 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if the ACP is not reauthorized. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 445,059 Louisiana families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition
SmartWAVE Technologies

⁴ <https://gov.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/newsroom/detail/4182>

Sonic

Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)

The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)

US Ignite

Volunteers of America National Services

Westchester Library System

Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT OFFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Janet Mills
Governor of Maine
210 State St,
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Governor Mills,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 82,000 currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Mainers will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Maine prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 82,444 Maine families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Maine, this number is 62%. Put another way, for every 10 Maine families who do not have home internet, for 6 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **82,444 Maine families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Maine’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Mainers – an estimated \$271,977,723 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, the Sunrise County Economic Council and the Aroostook

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17,

<https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

County Action Program, Inc. recently received \$200,000 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if the ACP is not reauthorized. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 82,444 Maine families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition

4

<https://www.maine.gov/governor/mills/news/maine-receives-272-million-federal-funding-expand-broadband-2023-06-26#:~:text=Governor%20Janet%20Mills%20today%20praised,to%20build%20out%20broadband%20internet.>

SmartWAVE Technologies

Sonic

Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)

The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)

US Ignite

Volunteers of America National Services

Westchester Library System

Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT OFFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Wes Moore
Governor of Maryland
100 State Circle,
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Governor Moore,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 220,000 Maryland families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Marylanders will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Maryland prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 220,614 Maryland families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Maryland, this number is 74%. Put another way, for every 10 Maryland families who do not have home internet, for 7 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **220,614 Maryland families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Maryland’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Marylander – an estimated \$267,738,400 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, the Prince George’s County Memorial Library System

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17, <https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

and the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development recently received \$500,000 and \$250,000 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if the ACP is not reauthorized. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 220,614 Maryland families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council

Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition
SmartWAVE Technologies
Sonic
Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)
The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
US Ignite
Volunteers of America National Services
Westchester Library System
Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT FFLINE

July 19, 2023

The Honorable Maura Healey
Governor of Massachusetts
Address 24 Beacon St., Room 280,
Boston, MA 02133.

Dear Governor Healey,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 298,000 Massachusetts families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Massachusettsans will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Massachusetts prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 298,874 Massachusetts families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Massachusetts, this number is 81%. Put another way, for every 10 Massachusetts families who do not have home internet, for 8 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **298,874 Massachusetts families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Massachusetts' Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Massachusettsans – an estimated \$147,422,464 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17, <https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

outreach efforts. In fact, the Baystate Medical Center, Inc. and the City of Boston recently received \$300,000 and \$250,000 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if the ACP is not reauthorized. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 298,874 Massachusetts families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition
SmartWAVE Technologies

⁴ <https://www.mass.gov/news/massachusetts-celebrates-147-million-in-new-federal-broadband-funding>

Sonic

Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)

The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)

US Ignite

Volunteers of America National Services

Westchester Library System

Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT FFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Gretchen Whitmer
Governor of Michigan
P.O. Box 30013
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Dear Governor Whitmer,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 669,000 currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Michiganian will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Michigan prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 669,440 Michigan families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Michigan, this number is 65%. Put another way, for every 10 Michigan families who do not have home internet, for 6 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **669,440 Michigan families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Michigan’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Michiganers – an estimated \$1,559,362,479 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, Wayne County and United Way for Southeastern

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17,

<https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

Michigan recently received \$664,125 and \$300,000 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if the ACP is not reauthorized. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 669,440 Michigan families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition

SmartWAVE Technologies

Sonic

Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)

The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)

US Ignite

Volunteers of America National Services

Westchester Library System

Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT OFFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Tim Walz
Governor of Minnesota
130 State Capitol
75 Rev Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Governor Walz,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 201,000 Minnesota families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Minnesotans will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Minnesota prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 201,527 Minnesota families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Minnesota, this number is 57%. Put another way, for every 10 Minnesota families who do not have home internet, for 5 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **201,527 Minnesota families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Minnesota’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Minnesotan – an estimated \$651,839,368 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17,

<https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

outreach efforts. In fact, the Tri-County Action Program, Inc. and the Leech Lake Reservation Business Committee recently received \$150,000 and \$62,041 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if the ACP is not reauthorized. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 201,527 Minnesota families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council

Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition
SmartWAVE Technologies
Sonic
Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)
The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
US Ignite
Volunteers of America National Services
Westchester Library System
Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT FFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Tate Reeves
Governor of Mississippi
550 High St. Sillers Building, 19th Floor
Jackson, MS 39201

Dear Governor Reeves,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 205,000 Mississippi families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Mississippians will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Mississippi prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 205,353 Mississippi families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Mississippi, this number is 58%. Put another way, for every 10 Mississippi families who do not have home internet, for 5 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **205,353 Mississippi families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Mississippi’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Mississippians – an estimated 1,203,561,563 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, the Mississippi Center for Justice recently received

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17,

<https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

\$300,000 in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if the ACP is not reauthorized. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 205,353 Mississippi families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition
SmartWAVE Technologies
Sonic
Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)

⁴ <https://vicksburgnews.com/mississippi-to-deploy-over-1-2-billion-for-broadband-expansion/>

The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
US Ignite
Volunteers of America National Services
Westchester Library System
Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT FFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Mike Parson
Governor of Missouri
P.O. Box 720
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Governor Parson,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 318,000 Missouri families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Missourians will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Missouri prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 318,508 Missouri families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Missouri, this number is 49%. Put another way, for every 10 Missouri families who do not have home internet, for 4 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **318,508 Missouri families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Missouri’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Missourians – an estimated \$1,736,302,708 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, the KC Digital Drive Inc. and the Bootheel Regional

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17,

<https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

Planning Commission recently received \$500,000 and \$150,000 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if the ACP is not reauthorized. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 318,508 Missouri families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition

SmartWAVE Technologies

Sonic

Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)

The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)

US Ignite

Volunteers of America National Services

Westchester Library System

Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT FFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Greg Gianforte
Governor of Montana
1301 E 6th Ave,
Helena, MT 59601

Dear Governor Gianforte,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 44,000 Montana families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Montanans will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Montana prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 44,823 Montana families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Montana, this number is 51%. Put another way, for every 10 Montana families who do not have home internet, for 5 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **44,823 Montana families and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Montana’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Montanans – an estimated \$628,973,798 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, the Human Resource Council recently received

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17, <https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

\$500,000 in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if the ACP is not reauthorized. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 44,823 Montana families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition

4

https://news.mt.gov/Governors-Office/Governor_Gianforte_Announces_628_Million_To_Expand_Broadband_Access#:~:text=Governor%20Gianforte%20Announces%20%24628%20Million%20To%20Expand%20Broadband%20Access.-Governor's%20Office&text=HELENA%2C%20Mont.,unserved%20and%20underserved%20Montana%20communities.

SmartWAVE Technologies

Sonic

Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)

The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)

US Ignite

Volunteers of America National Services

Westchester Library System

Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT FFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Jim Pillen
Governor of Nebraska
1445 K St,
Lincoln, NE 68508

Dear Governor Pillen,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 77,000 Nebraska families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Nebraskans will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Nebraska prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 77,878 Nebraska families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Nebraska, this number is 55%. Put another way, for every 10 Nebraska families who do not have home internet, for 5 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **77,878 Nebraska families and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Nebraska’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Nebraskans – an estimated \$405,281,070 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, the Southeast Nebraska Development District recently

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17, <https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

received \$500,000 in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if the ACP is not reauthorized. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 77,878 Nebraska families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition

SmartWAVE Technologies

Sonic

Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)

The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)

US Ignite

Volunteers of America National Services

Westchester Library System

Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT FFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Joe Lombardo
Governor of Nevada
101 N Carson St,
Carson City, NV 89701

Dear Governor Lombardo,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 211,000 Nevada families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Nevadans will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Nevada prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 211,518 Nevada families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Nevada, this number is 70%. Put another way, for every 10 Nevada families who do not have home internet, for 7 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **211,518 Nevada, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Nevada’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Nevadans – an estimated \$416,666,229 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, the Northern Nevada Institute of Public Health recently

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17,

<https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

received \$350,000 in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if the ACP is not reauthorized. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 211,518 Nevada families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition
SmartWAVE Technologies
Sonic

⁴ https://gov.nv.gov/Newsroom/PRs/2023/2023-03-31_HighSpeedNVInternetOutreachTour/

Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)
The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
US Ignite
Volunteers of America National Services
Westchester Library System
Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT FFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Chris Sununu
Governor of New Hampshire
107 N Main St #208,
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Governor Sununu,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 32,000 New Hampshire families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those New Hampshire families will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as New Hampshire prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 32,863 New Hampshire families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In New Hampshire, this number is 71%. Put another way, for every 10 New Hampshire families who do not have home internet, for 7 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **32,863 New Hampshire families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of New Hampshire’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Hampshirites – an estimated \$196,560,278 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17,

<https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

outreach efforts. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 32,863 New Hampshire families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition
SmartWAVE Technologies
Sonic
Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)
The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)

⁴ <https://www.govtech.com/network/new-hampshire-to-receive-nearly-197m-for-internet-work>

US Ignite
Volunteers of America National Services
Westchester Library System
Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT FFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Phil Murphy
Governor of New Jersey
225 W State St,
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Governor XXXX,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 252,000 New Jersey families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those New Jerseyites will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as New Jersey prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 252,592 New Jersey families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In New Jersey, this number is 80%. Put another way, for every 10 New Jersey families who do not have home internet, for 8 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **252,592 New Jersey families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of New Jersey’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all New Jerseyites – an estimated \$263,689,548 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, the Newark Community Economic Development

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17,

<https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

Company and the HOPES Community Action Partnership Inc. recently received \$400,000 and \$300,000 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if the ACP is not reauthorized. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 252,592 New Jersey families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council

Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition
SmartWAVE Technologies
Sonic
Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)
The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
US Ignite
Volunteers of America National Services
Westchester Library System
Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT FFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor of New Mexico
490 Old Santa Fe Trail #400,
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Dear Governor Grisham,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 165,495 New Mexican families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those New Mexicans will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as New Mexico prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 165,495 New Mexican families have signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In New Mexico, this number is 50%. Put another way, for every 10 New Mexican families who do not have home internet, for 5 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **165,495 New Mexican families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of New Mexico’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all New Mexicans – an estimated \$675,372,311.86 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other

²H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17,

<https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

outreach efforts. In fact, the New Mexico Black Leadership Council and City of Albuquerque recently received \$400,000 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if ACP funding ran out. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the **165,495 New Mexican families** and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council

4

<https://www.governor.state.nm.us/2023/07/06/gov-michelle-lujan-grisham-announces-plans-for-675-million-investment-to-expand-access-to-broadband/>

Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition
SmartWAVE Technologies
Sonic
Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)
The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
US Ignite
Volunteers of America National Services
Westchester Library System
Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT OFFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York
ConnectALL Office
633 Third Avenue 33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Governor Hochul,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 1,345,087 New Yorker families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those New Yorkers will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as New York prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 1,345,087 New Yorker families have signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In New York, this number is 77%. Put another way, for every 10 New Yorker families who do not have home internet, for 7 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **1,345,087 New Yorker families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of New York’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all New Yorkers – an estimated \$664,618,251.49 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17,

<https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, the Albany County Opportunity, Inc. and NYS Community Action Association recently received \$250,000 and \$500,000 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if ACP funding ran out. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the **1,345,087 New Yorker families** and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals

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<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-senator-schumer-senator-gillibrand-and-new-york-congressional-delegation>

National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition
SmartWAVE Technologies
Sonic
Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)
The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
US Ignite
Volunteers of America National Services
Westchester Library System
Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT OFFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Roy Cooper
Governor of North Carolina
217 West Jones Street
1641 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27603

Dear Governor Cooper,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 764,763 North Carolinian families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those North Carolinians will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as North Carolina prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 764,763 North Carolinian families have signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In North Carolina, this number is 66%. Put another way, for every 10 North Carolinian families who do not have home internet, for 6 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **764,763 North Carolinian families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of North Carolina’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all North Carolinians – an estimated \$1,532,999,481.15 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17,

<https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, Goler Depot Street Renaissance Corporation and Kramden Institute, Inc recently received \$300,000 and \$200,000 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if ACP funding ran out. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the **764,763 North Carolinian families** and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals

4

<https://governor.nc.gov/news/press-releases/2023/06/26/governor-cooper-announces-north-carolina-will-receive-more-15-billion-federal-funding-expand-high>

National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition
SmartWAVE Technologies
Sonic
Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)
The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
US Ignite
Volunteers of America National Services
Westchester Library System
Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT OFFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Doug Burgum
Governor of North Dakota
4201 Normandy Street
Bismarck, ND
58503-1324

Dear Governor Burgum,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 13,595 North Dakotans families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those North Dakotans will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as North Dakota prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 13,595 North Dakotans families have signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In North Dakota, this number is 78%. Put another way, for every 10 North Dakotans families who do not have home internet, for 7 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **13,595 North Dakotans families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of North Dakota’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all North Dakotans – an estimated \$130,162,815.12 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17,

<https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, Community Action Partnership of North Dakota and University of North Dakota recently received \$500,000 and \$300,000 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if ACP funding ran out. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 13,595 North Dakotans families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals

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<https://www.governor.nd.gov/news/bugrum-dakota-carrier-network-receives-197m-grant-help-fill-broadband-gaps-north-dakota>

National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition
SmartWAVE Technologies
Sonic
Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)
The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
US Ignite
Volunteers of America National Services
Westchester Library System
Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT OFFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Mike DeWine
Governor of Ohio
77 S High St
30th Floor,
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Governor DeWine,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 947,697 Ohioan families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Ohioans will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Ohio prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 947,697 Ohioan families have signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Ohio, this number is 67%. Put another way, for every 10 Ohioan families who do not have home internet, for 6 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **947,697 Ohioan families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Ohio’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Ohioans – an estimated \$793,688,107.63 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17,

<https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center and Urban League of Greater Southwestern Ohio recently received \$300,000 and \$400,000 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if ACP funding ran out. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the **947,697 Ohioan families** and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals

4

<https://governor.ohio.gov/media/news-and-media/governor-dewine-let-governor-husted-announce-new-broadband-expansion-projects-03182022>

National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition
SmartWAVE Technologies
Sonic
Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)
The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
US Ignite
Volunteers of America National Services
Westchester Library System
Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT OFFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Kevin Stitt
Governor of Oklahoma
2300 N Lincoln Blvd # 212,
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Governor Stitt,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 281,404 Oklahoman families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Oklahomans will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Oklahoma prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 281,404 Oklahoman families have signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Oklahoma, this number is 55%. Put another way, for every 10 Oklahoman families who do not have home internet, for 5 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **281,404 Oklahoman families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Oklahoma’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Oklahomans – an estimated \$797,435,691.25 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17,

<https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

outreach efforts. In fact, Delaware County Community Partnership, Inc. and The ARC Foundation: Strengthening Communities recently received \$67,209 and \$316,376 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if ACP funding ran out. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the **281,404 Oklahoman families** and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council

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<https://oklahoma.gov/broadband/office/newsroom/oklahoma-to-receive--797-4-million-for-high-speed-inter-net-build.html>

Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition
SmartWAVE Technologies
Sonic
Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)
The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
US Ignite
Volunteers of America National Services
Westchester Library System
Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT OFFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Tina Kotek
Governor of Oregon
775 Summer St., NE
Suite 200
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Governor Kotek,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 180,989 Oregonian families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Oregonians will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Oregon prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 180,989 Oregonian families have signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Oregon, this number is 58%. Put another way, for every 10 Oregonian families who do not have home internet, for 5 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **180,989 Oregonian families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Oregon’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Oregonians – an estimated \$688,914,932.17 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17,

<https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, South Central Oregon Economic Development District and Josephine County recently received \$150,000 and \$209,780 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if ACP funding ran out. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the **180,989 Oregonian families** and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council

⁴ <https://www.oregon.gov/newsroom/pages/newsdetail>

Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition
SmartWAVE Technologies
Sonic
Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)
The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
US Ignite
Volunteers of America National Services
Westchester Library System
Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT OFFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Josh Shapiro
Governor of Pennsylvania
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street, 4th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0225

Dear Governor Shapiro,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 619,289 Pennsylvanian families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Pennsylvanians will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Pennsylvania prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 619,289 Pennsylvanian families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Pennsylvania, this number is 70%. Put another way, for every 10 Pennsylvanian families who do not have home internet, for 7 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **619,289 Pennsylvanian families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Pennsylvania’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Pennsylvanians – an estimated \$1,161,778,272.41 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17,

<https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services and Computer Reach recently received \$500,000 and \$350,000 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if ACP funding ran out. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the **619,289 Pennsylvanian families** and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals

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<https://www.governor.pa.gov/newsroom/governor-shapiro-announces-pennsylvania-will-receive-1-16-billion-in-new-federal-funding-to-expand-affordable-high-speed-internet-access-across-the-commonwealth/>

National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition
SmartWAVE Technologies
Sonic
Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)
The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
US Ignite
Volunteers of America National Services
Westchester Library System
Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT OFFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Dan McKee
Governor of Rhode Island
82 Smith St,
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Governor McKee,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 64,351 Rhode Islander families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Rhode Islander will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Rhode Island prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 64,351 Rhode Islander families have signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Rhode Island, this number is 87%. Put another way, for every 10 Rhode Islander families who do not have home internet, for 8 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **64,351 Rhode Islander families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Rhode Island’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Rhode Islanders – an estimated \$108,718,820.75 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17,

<https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

outreach efforts. In fact, the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation and the United Way of Rhode Island, Inc recently received \$300,000 and \$150,000 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if ACP funding ran out. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the **64,351 Rhode Islander families** families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

Benton Institute for Broadband & Society
Columbus Metropolitan Library
Common Sense Media
Community Tech NY (CTNY)
Connect2Educate, A Rural Broadband Advocacy
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
County of Los Angeles Internal Services Department
EducationSuperHighway
IBSA, Inc.
INCOMPAS
Institute of Real Estate Management
Kansas Office of Broadband Development
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Maine Connectivity Authority
Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council (MMTC)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Apartment Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Multifamily Housing Council

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<https://governor.ri.gov/press-releases/governor-mckee-launches-statewide-initiative-increase-affordable-connectivity>

Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition
SmartWAVE Technologies
Sonic
Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF)
The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)
US Ignite
Volunteers of America National Services
Westchester Library System
Zayo Group, LLC

NO HOME LEFT FFLINE

July 17, 2023

The Honorable Mike Parson
Governor of Missouri
P.O. Box 720
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Governor Parson,

The undersigned organizations, write to you today as part of the No Home Left Offline Coalition, a coalition of national nonprofit organizations representing broadband, housing, healthcare, civil rights, municipalities, and education committed to advocating for the development, inclusion, and implementation of equitable policies that ensure that No Home is Left Offline.

Over 318,000 Missouri families currently rely on the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for internet service. If Congress does not refund the ACP this year, those Missourians will soon see a big spike in their internet bill and potentially lose service entirely. This would occur just as Missouri prepares to make the biggest broadband investment in state history.

On December 31, 2021, to comply with Congressional directives in the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$14.2 billion successor program to the Emergency Broadband Benefit which enabled nearly 9 million to afford home broadband during the pandemic. Since its inception, 318,508 Missouri families signed up for and rely on the ACP to bring broadband to their homes.

The ACP was well-timed as an affordability solution: nationwide, two-thirds of the entire digital divide is due to affordability. In Missouri, this number is 49%. Put another way, for every 10 Missouri families who do not have home internet, for 4 of them, it's just because they can't afford to connect and stay connected.

Unfortunately, we are approaching an alarming crossroads: funding for the ACP is projected to run out by mid-2024.¹ So far, no clear path has emerged to renew the funds. *We urge you to contact your congressional delegation to urge them to take action on renewing the ACP.*

¹ <https://www.benton.org/headlines/when-will-affordable-connectivity-program-funding-run-out-0>

If the ACP is not renewed:

- **318,508 Missouri families, and 19 million families nationwide, will suddenly face an increased broadband bill.** An increase of up to \$30/month, or up to \$75/month in tribal areas, is simply not what these families need in the current environment of inflation and economic uncertainty. Simply put, whether homeowners or renters, these low-income Americans who utilize the ACP to access education, employment, or healthcare will be stripped of broadband access should the program cease.
- **The success of Missouri’s Broadband Access, Equity and Deployment (BEAD) allocation in connecting all Missourians – an estimated \$1,736,302,708 – will be in question.** The BEAD plans states are required to submit to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) later this year rely heavily on the existence of the ACP. By statute, states have the directive to align their BEAD and Digital Equity Act (DEA) plans in order to receive the federal funds, and providing access to “a reliable, affordable, high-speed internet connection” is one of the key goals of the DEA.² The success and interdependence of both programs is absolutely critical to eradicating the digital divide, regardless of where someone calls home—whether that’s in unserved rural communities or unserved and underserved low-income multifamily communities where reliable and modern broadband infrastructure is often out of reach without government subsidy.
- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may face a considerable dropoff in subscribers.** ISPs are expected to bid on deployment projects funded by BEAD funds to build out networks to unserved and underserved communities. The ACP stretches BEAD dollars and draws infrastructure to the communities that need it most. Recent analysis shows the ACP may lead to a 25% reduction in the subsidy needed to incentivize deployment in rural areas.³ If Congress fails to provide additional funding for the ACP, many regional providers may decide not to participate in state procurement opportunities because broadband will no longer be affordable to residents in those communities.
- **An entire ecosystem of community-based organizations with incredible momentum organizing around signing their communities up for ACP will come to a halt.** The past two years have seen a flourishing of community-based organizations working to help their communities afford broadband through ACP enrollment events, training, building out digital navigator corps, and other outreach efforts. In fact, the KC Digital Drive Inc. and the Bootheel Regional

² H.R.3684 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (2021, November 15). <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>

³ See Figure 17,

<https://www.common sense media.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-cs-bcg-closing-digital-divide-final-release-3-for-web.pdf#page=34>

Planning Commission recently received \$500,000 and \$150,000 respectively in federal funding to increase awareness and enrollment in the ACP, which would be proven ineffective if the ACP is not reauthorized. It would be financially irresponsible and detrimental to communities to allow organizations to undertake these community initiatives without certainty that ACP will continue.

The No Home Left Offline Coalition and its undersigned members applaud you for your efforts to quickly and efficiently connect all of your state's residents to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband. We cannot thank you enough for prioritizing both access and affordability to ensure your constituents can connect to the internet.⁴ Voices like yours carry weight in Washington, D.C. Please tell Congress to take urgent action to renew the ACP for the 318,508 Missouri families and 18.5 million families nationwide relying on the ACP to complete homework, work remotely, access healthcare, and the social safety net.

Sincerely,

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Zayo Group, LLC