



November 13, 2023

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
2433 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Speaker Johnson, Minority Leader Jeffries, Majority Leader Schumer, and Minority Leader McConnell:

As Governors from across the country, we urge you to work collaboratively with the Biden Administration to ensure that a key tool in our joint efforts to bridge the digital divide—the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)—receives additional funding. It is essential that people do not lose access to the internet that this vital program has allowed them to gain.

There is broad agreement across the political spectrum that affordable high-speed internet is a necessity in today's world, whether it's for education, work or health care. This is why we urge you to fund this critical program that makes internet access more affordable.


The ACP could run out of funding as early as [April 2024](#). Without bipartisan collaboration between Congress and the White House to continue the ACP, nearly 20 million households enrolled nationally could lose connectivity as well as all the essential services that come with it.

The ACP is a critical complement to our collective efforts to expand access to broadband infrastructure in rural, unserved communities across the country. With [\\$42.5](#) billion in Broadband, Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) funding going to the states, we want to maximize this once-in-a-generation opportunity. The ACP plays a valuable role in helping households afford broadband and encouraging internet providers to build out rural broadband infrastructure. Recent analysis indicates that the ACP reduces the subsidy needed to incentivize providers to build in rural regions by [25%](#) per household, ensuring that taxpayer dollars are used to their maximum potential.

Closing our nation's digital divide transcends politics. Whether you live in a rural area, a suburb, or a city, every American needs access to high-speed internet. Preserving the ACP will allow us to build upon the progress we've made in expanding connectivity rather than falling behind in a mission we cannot afford to lose.

We stand ready to work with you and the White House to find a commonsense solution to funding the ACP. We urge you to ensure this crucial program continues.

Sincerely,



Governor Roy Cooper
State of North Carolina



Governor Spencer Cox
State of Utah



Governor Katie Hobbs
State of Arizona



Governor Jared Polis
State of Colorado



Governor Ned Lamont
State of Connecticut



Governor JB Pritzker
State of Illinois



Governor Laura Kelly
State of Kansas



Governor Andy Beshear
State of Kentucky



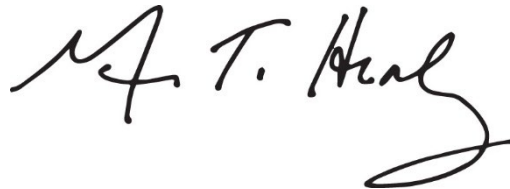
Governor John Bel Edwards
State of Louisiana



Governor Janet Mills
State of Maine



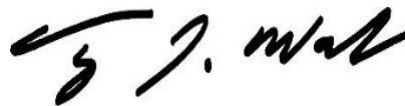
Governor Wes Moore
State of Maryland



Governor Maura Healey
State of Massachusetts



Governor Gretchen Whitmer
State of Michigan



Governor Tim Walz
State of Minnesota



Governor Joe Lombardo
State of Nevada



Governor Phil Murphy
State of New Jersey



Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham
State of New Mexico



Governor Kathy Hochul
State of New York



Governor Tina Kotek
State of Oregon



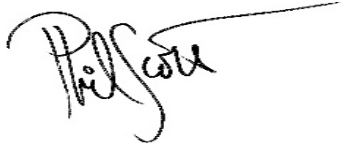
Governor Josh Shapiro
State of Pennsylvania



Governor Pedro Pierluisi
Territory of Puerto Rico



Governor Dan McKee
State of Rhode Island



Governor Phil Scott
State of Vermont



Governor Jay Inslee
State of Washington



Governor Tony Evers
State of Wisconsin



Governor Mark Gordon
State of Wyoming