

March 18, 2024

The Honorable Chuck Schumer Majority Leader United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson Speaker of the House United States House of Representatives U.S. Capitol Building Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell Republican Leader **United States Senate** Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries Democratic Leader United States House of Representatives U.S. Capitol Building Washington, DC 20515

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

The leadership of the National League of Cities (NLC), representing America's 19,000 cities, towns and villages, calls on Congress to pass Affordable Connectivity Program Extension Act (H.R. 6929/S. 3565). The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) has provided more than 22 million low-income households with a monthly \$30 discount on home broadband service from participating internet service providers.

Unfortunately, without congressional action soon, the ACP is expected to exhaust its current source of funds and will be forced to halt benefits at the end of April.

The end of ACP would impact individual households, communities, broadband service providers, and states. Impacted households would risk either losing connectivity, or possibly incur late fees and debt with their broadband providers, risking their future ability to subscribe to services. Households with students risk losing connectivity shortly before the end of the academic year. Many states' broadband and digital equity plans, which were required by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, rely on ACP to meet broadband affordability and broadband adoption goals. While it is unclear how these states' use of federal grants would be impacted, we know these grants will almost certainly not be as effective in the absence of ACP.



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MAYOR

The National League of Cities is ready to work with Congress to rebuild and maintain America's broadband infrastructure from the ground up. We urge you to pass the Affordable Connectivity Program Extension Act (H.R. 6929/ S. 3565) before the benefits are halted at the end of April. If you have any questions or want to discuss these proposals, you may reach out to the NLC Federal Advocacy team at advocacy@nlc.org.

Sincerely,

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CC: Members of the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives