
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8010

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2024 Regular Session

By Senators Lias and Boehnke

1 TO THE HONORABLE JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR., PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
2 STATES, AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE
3 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF
4 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled,
7 respectfully represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, Washington affirms its commitment to supporting an
9 extension of the affordable connectivity program (ACP), which
10 provides our citizens with access to affordable broadband services;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Congress assigned the federal communications commission
13 to administer the ACP, the successor program to the emergency
14 broadband benefit, which helped almost 9,000,000 households afford
15 internet access during the pandemic; and

16 WHEREAS, Under the ACP, eligible households can receive up to \$30
17 per month discount toward internet services and up to \$75 per month
18 for households on qualifying tribal lands; and

19 WHEREAS, Eligible households may also receive a one-time discount
20 of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from
21 participating providers; and

22 WHEREAS, Over 340,000 citizens of the State of Washington are
23 benefiting from the affordable connectivity program, and are at risk

1 of losing internet service in 2024 if Congress does not fund an
2 extension of the program; and

3 WHEREAS, Where broadband is available, the ACP allows subscribers
4 to afford internet speeds and devices sufficient for key online
5 activities, such as at-home learning, health care, banking, and
6 public services; and

7 WHEREAS, Where broadband is not available, the ACP incentivizes
8 the deployment of new broadband infrastructure; and

9 WHEREAS, The ACP is a critical program for Washington citizens,
10 in concurrence with funds the state is receiving to build and improve
11 broadband infrastructure, provide devices to those who lack them, and
12 promote the adoption of technology among our least connected
13 communities; and

14 WHEREAS, The ACP serves as an essential catalyst for Washington's
15 economic growth, workforce development, and innovation, allowing the
16 ACP to end would be a great disservice to Washingtonians who rely on
17 the program to access vital online services and resources;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully urge and request
19 the Congress of the United States to support continued funding of the
20 ACP so that low-income households in the State of Washington can
21 continue to receive the support they need to participate in the
22 digital marketplace.

23 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
24 transmitted to the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., President of the
25 United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker
26 of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the
27 State of Washington.

--- END ---