



Mendocino County

Legislation Text

File #: 24-0313, Version: 1

To: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

From: Executive Office

Meeting Date: March 12, 2024

Department Contact: Darcie Antle

Phone: 707-463-4441

Department Contact: Kelly Hansen

Phone: 707-463-4441

Item Type: Consent Agenda

Time Allocated for Item: N/A

Agenda Title:

Ratification of a Letter of Support for the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) and Federal Investment in Broadband

Recommended Action/Motion:

Ratify letter of support for the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) and the Federal investment in broadband.

Previous Board/Board Committee Actions:

No previous action.

Summary of Request:

More than 2.8 million households in California depend on the Affordable Connectivity Program's (ACP) subsidies and discounts to afford critical broadband internet services. In Mendocino County alone, 2,000 out of 13,000 ACP-eligible households benefit from this program. By giving equal importance to affordability and infrastructure expansion, the ACP plays a significant role in bridging the digital divide and promoting fair access to vital online services such as job search, healthcare, and education for all Americans.

However, the ACP sunsets in April and Congress's failure to extend this program would sever the connection to affordable, reliable broadband access to these 2.8 million Californian households and more than 20 million households nationwide. The loss of the ACP would also reduce the effectiveness of Congress' \$42 billion investment in the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Act. The ACP is necessary to maximize BEAD program dollars intended to build our nation's broadband infrastructure and ensure no community is left behind. Mendocino County supports the bi-cameral, bi-partisan Affordable Connectivity Program Extension Act to ensure this vital program continues to help keep America online.

Alternative Action/Motion:

Do not ratify letter of opposition and support.

Strategic Plan Priority Designation: A Thriving Economy

Supervisory District: All

Vote Requirement: Majority

Supplemental Information Available Online At:

- [Text - H.R.6929 - 118th Congress \(2023-2024\): Affordable Connectivity Program Extension Act of 2024 | Congress.gov | Library of Congress <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/6929/text?s=1&r=14>](https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/6929/text?s=1&r=14)
- Affordable Connectivity Program | Federal Communications Commission (fcc.gov) <https://www.fcc.gov/acp>

Fiscal Details:

source of funding: N/A

current f/y cost: N/A

budget clarification: N/A

annual recurring cost: N/A

budgeted in current f/y (if no, please describe): N/A

revenue agreement: N/A

AGREEMENT/RESOLUTION/ORDINANCE APPROVED BY COUNTY COUNSEL: N/A

CEO Liaison: Executive Office

CEO Review: Yes

CEO Comments:

FOR COB USE ONLY

Executed By: Atlas Pearson, Senior Deputy Clerk

Final Status: **Approved**

Date: March 12, 2024

