Dear Enter the name of the US Senator or US House member,

My name is [YOUR NAME], [JOB TITLE] at [ORGANIZATION] in [TOWN/CITY/RESERVATION]. We exist to [INSERT YOUR MISSION]. To accomplish this mission, we [YOUR ROLE/ACTIONS IN ACP (SIGNING HOUSEHOLDS UP FOR THE PROGRAM, EDUCATION, ETC.). Every day in our work, we witness the impact of internet access and the ability it has to transform people's lives.

In the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), Congress identified access to affordable, high-speed broadband as essential for participating in modern life. By establishing the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), Congress has helped make broadband affordable for over 20 million households.

In our state alone, [<u># OF ENROLLED HOUSEHOLDS</u>] households rely on ACP to afford broadband service. However, the ACP is in danger of running out of funds by mid-2024. These 20 million Americans are at risk of losing home internet.

ACP is valuable and worth continued investment:

- People who could not afford broadband are getting connected through ACP. One in four ACP recipients did not have home internet before this program.
- Internet is critical for American success and wellness in education, healthcare, employment, and almost every aspect of modern life.
- Internet service providers can get more consumers on their networks, which helps support the business case for deploying broadband network infrastructure.
- ACP supports the success of other federal broadband initiatives, such as the Federal <u>Capital Projects Fund (CPF)</u> and <u>Broadband Equity Access and Deployment</u> (BEAD) Program, which both require participation in the ACP and/or proposed strategies to address affordability issues.
- Research shows that broadband benefit programs for low-income households improve their employment rates and earnings¹-this gives a boost to the economy as a whole.

The need for affordable broadband is so essential that it unites people from across both the geographic and political spectrum. ACP has wide <u>bipartisan voter support</u> - 78 percent of voters approve of the program, including 64 percent of Republicans, 70 percent of independents, and 95 percent of Democrat voters. People across geographic areas also support continuing ACP, with 81 percent of urban, 78% of suburban, and 68 percent of rural residents.

¹ Blair Levin, "Washington May Be About to Take a Giant Step Backward In Closing the Digital Divide" (Blog), March 13, 2023

https://www.brookings.edu/articles/washington-may-be-about-to-take-a-giant-step-backward-in-closing-th e-digital-divide/

Please do not pull the plug on internet for these 20 million American households. Help keep broadband affordable by extending ACP.

Sincerely,

[INSERT SIGNATURES AND ORGANIZATION NAMES. Note: This is a good opportunity to involve your partners and/or Coalition to strengthen your ask with many supporters!]