

(Sample) Advocacy Letter to U.S. Senators

Dear [Senator's Name],
Address
Washington, DC

I am writing as (insert your role) to bring to your attention the critical situation surrounding the **Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)**, a vital initiative that has provided affordable broadband access to millions of Americans, including many in our state. Unfortunately, the ACP officially ran out of funding as of June 1, 2024. Despite the efforts made by the House of Representatives' Energy and Commerce Committee in May 2024 to secure additional resources and expand the program's reach, the Congressional budget failed to allocate the necessary funds for its renewal. As a result, millions of Americans, including those in our district, are now facing uncertainty about their future access to essential broadband support.

Before the program ended, approximately 21 million Americans benefited from the ACP, gaining access to high-speed internet and other essential broadband services at a reduced cost. This program was particularly impactful in rural and underserved communities. A recent Federal Communications Commission (FCC) survey of 110,000 ACP participants highlighted the program's critical importance: 22 percent of all respondents had no internet access before enrolling in the ACP, with this number rising to 25 percent among rural users. Additionally, 33 percent of participants reported only having intermittent internet service, depending on when they could afford it. For many in rural areas, the ACP provided their first-ever internet access, breaking down prohibitive cost barriers.

This program was more than just a way to access social media; it was a lifeline. It allowed individuals in underserved areas to stay connected with family and community, attend or schedule healthcare appointments, and stay informed on current events. Additionally, it facilitated online education, job applications, and access to critical government benefits. Without the ACP, over 21 million Americans now face a widening digital divide, threatening their connection to these essential services.

I urge you to advocate for the renewal and funding of the ACP within our state. Your support in this matter is crucial to ensuring that our constituents do not lose access to the digital tools they need to thrive in today's world.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent issue. I look forward to your response and hope for your strong support in restoring this essential program for our district.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]