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Tech Goes Home Urges Massachusetts Congressional Delegation to Support Continued Funding for the Affordable Connectivity Program

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BOSTON, October 5, 2023 -- Today, during National Digital Inclusion Week, [Tech Goes Home](#) (TGH), a leading nonprofit working to advance digital equity in Massachusetts, sent a [letter](#) to all eleven members of the Massachusetts Congressional Delegation urging them to advocate for and support long-term, sustainable funding for the [Affordable Connectivity Program](#) (ACP), which is at risk of running out of funding in a matter of months.

Established in 2021, the ACP program currently provides more than 300,000 income-eligible Massachusetts households with a subsidy to help them purchase reliable, high-speed internet and the option to receive a discount on a digital device like a laptop, desktop, or tablet. This support is essential as access to education, employment, healthcare, and more increasingly relies on access to the digital world. However, existing funding for the ACP program is projected to run out by the middle of 2024 – if not sooner – absent Federal action to provide additional resources.

“Allowing ACP funding to lapse would create a devastating cliff for individuals and families who are currently enrolled and would see their internet bills increase to the tune of hundreds of dollars per year,” wrote TGH in their letter to Massachusetts’ federal lawmakers. “At the same time, it would eliminate the opportunity to expand essential digital access to millions of eligible households that have yet to enroll in the program. Community-focused organizations, internet service providers, and other partners have put considerable time and effort into expanding awareness and building trust with eligible individuals and families – we should not cut those efforts off midstream.”

While more than [20 million households](#) nationwide have enrolled in ACP so far, that number represents significantly less than half of all eligible households. In Massachusetts, the 313,000 households that are currently enrolled make up only 31 percent of the more than 1,000,000 eligible households statewide.

“The ACP has proven to be an effective and far-reaching tool — in Massachusetts and across the country — and we urge you to advocate for, and support continued funding that will provide both stability for current enrollees and more time to reach additional individuals and families who could benefit from the program,” wrote TGH.

A full copy of the letter can be found [here](#).

About Tech Goes Home: Tech Goes Home is a nonprofit dedicated to addressing the digital inequities that pose a significant barrier to opportunity and success for thousands of students, workers, and families across Massachusetts. Working in partnership with schools, healthcare providers, and community organizations, Tech Goes Home provides curated support - including access to digital devices, network connectivity, and robust training in how to utilize digital resources - to help individuals and families pursue economic mobility, support academic achievement, access critical resources, and engage with their community and loved ones. You can learn more about Tech Goes Home’s work, and ways to become involved, at techgoeshome.org.

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