

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, high-quality internet service is increasingly essential as a basic utility; and is often necessary for people's livelihood and education, including applying for jobs, working remotely, attending virtual classes and completing schoolwork; accessing government benefits and services; banking and financial services; and meeting many other needs such as communication (as traditional wired landlines are phased out), entertainment, and shopping; and

WHEREAS, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 appropriated \$14.2 billion for the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), which provides qualifying low-income households a discount of up to \$30 per month toward internet service, as well as a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer or tablet; and

WHEREAS, because many private telecommunications companies now provide a \$30 per month service tier that makes broadband service effectively free for customers who qualify for the ACP; the ACP has helped advance the goal of ensuring universal access to broadband services; and

WHEREAS, more than 20 million households have enrolled in the ACP, although this is still less than half of the nearly 50 million eligible households; and

WHEREAS, because the ACP is likely to run out of funding in Spring 2024 absent action by the federal government to extend the program; and

WHEREAS, since 1985, the federal government has provided a "Lifeline" subsidy for basic telephone service; and since 2016, the Lifeline service has included a broadband subsidy, but the \$9.25/month subsidy is wholly inadequate to ensure basic broadband service;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that by the adoption of this Resolution the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2023-2024 Federal Legislative Program SUPPORT for legislation that would extend and make permanent the Affordable Connectivity Program.

PRESENTED BY:

BOB BLUMENFIELD  
Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY:

ORIGINAL

OCT 24 2023

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