

April 29, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Majority Leader McConnell, Minority Leader McCarthy, and Minority Leader Schumer,

We, the undersigned, urge you to support access to affordable broadband internet in forthcoming COVID-19 stimulus package(s). Tens of millions of Americans don't have broadband internet at home. Low-income families, rural residents, and people of color are particularly affected, leaving our most vulnerable communities struggling to stay connected with school, work, healthcare, entertainment, and their loved ones during the COVID-19 crisis.

To make matters worse, more than 26 million Americans and counting have lost their jobs due to the pandemic, and millions more have likely had their hours and pay reduced. These individuals may struggle to pay their broadband bills -- if broadband is available to them at all.

During a time when communication tools have never been more critical, and unemployment has never been so high, Congress must enact policies to ensure that everyone has broadband internet. Broadband is crucial for keeping residents home, safe, and as connected with everyday life as possible during these trying times. Broadband enables people to work remotely, access medical care, and apply for government benefits. As all levels of education and training transition online for the foreseeable future, reliable internet access is essential for students to be successful. Perhaps most importantly, broadband allows residents who are isolated during the COVID-19 pandemic to stay informed, entertained, and connected with loved ones while protecting public health.

Like food, water, and electricity, everyone needs broadband internet service during this unprecedented crisis. That is why Congress must include policies that support broadband availability, including increased funding for adoption, network sustainability, and deployment for areas still lacking access, in upcoming stimulus packages.

Sincerely,

**Industry**

A Better Wireless, NISP, LLC  
American Sustainable Business Council  
Channelford Associates Inc  
CommScope, Inc.  
Corporation for Education Network Initiatives in California (CENIC)  
Digital West  
E-rate Central  
EDGE Consulting Partners  
ELAE Enterprises, LLC  
Engine  
Epic Communications, Inc.  
Espy Services Inc.  
Fiber Broadband Association  
Fully Equipped 4 Life Training Solutions  
GWI, Inc  
I-Light Indiana's Higher Education Optical Network  
INCOMPAS  
IT Remarketing, Inc. (DBA TechnoCycle)  
Kajeet, Inc.  
Lit Communities, LLC  
Mighty River, LLC  
Mobile Beacon  
Mozilla Corporation  
National Asian/Pacific Islander American Chamber of Commerce and Entrepreneurship (ACE)  
National Rural Electric Cooperative Association  
North Carolina Telehealth Network Association  
NTCA-The Rural Broadband Association  
On-Tech Consulting, Inc.  
Open Hub  
Pacific Northwest Gigapop  
Revolution D, Inc.  
Rural Wireless Association, Inc.  
Silicon Harlem  
Smart City Media LLC  
Sonic Telecom  
Starry, Inc.  
Stem Nastics LLC  
Stemnastics LLC  
Synogy Group

Tribal Digital Village Network  
Twitter, Inc.  
Utah Education and Telehealth Network  
Velocity Fiber  
Vimeo, Inc.  
Waste Management Innovations, Inc.  
Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce

### **Local Government and Government Associations**

Alaska Department of Education and Early Development  
League of Oregon Cities  
National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors  
National League of Cities  
State of New Mexico Public School Facilities Authority SFA  
Washoe County, NV  
Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

### **Nonprofits and Other Associations**

Access Humboldt  
Access Now  
Adoptions Together  
Adult Learning Center  
Advance CTE  
Advocates for Basic Legal Equality  
Alabama Supercomputer Authority  
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS, AFLCIO  
Ashbury Senior Computer Community Center  
Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC  
Association for Career and Technical Education  
Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents  
Austin Free-Net  
Austin Pathways at the Housing Authority of the City of Austin  
Benton Institute for Broadband & Society  
Brookline Interactive  
California IT in Education (CITE)  
Cambridge Public Access Corporation dba Cambridge Community Television  
Center for Democracy & Technology  
Center for Innovative Technology  
Center for Rural Strategies  
Central City Concern  
Change Inc.

Citizens Action Coalition of IN  
Common Cause  
Common Sense Media  
Communications Workers of America  
Community Justice Project  
Connect Your Community  
Connected Insights  
Connecting For Good  
Consumer Reports  
CoSN - Consortium for School Networking  
Demand Progress  
Digital Harbor Foundation  
Digital Inclusion Practitioners of NJ  
Disability Rights Pennsylvania  
E2D, Inc.  
Educators for Excellence  
Electronic Frontier Foundation  
Energy Outreach Colorado  
EraseTheRedline Inc  
EveryLibrary Institute  
EveryoneOn  
Fight for the Future  
Filipina Women's Network  
Free Geek  
Free Press Action  
Future of Music Coalition  
Generations on Line  
George Wiley Center  
Goodwill Industries International, Inc.  
Grahamtastic Connection  
HBCU Innovation Center  
Health Information Exchange of Montana  
Health, Education and Legal Assistance Project: A Medical-Legal Partnership  
Higher Learning Advocates  
Home Forward  
HOPE Village Revitalization  
Hopes Cap Inc,  
Human-I-T  
IBSA, Inc.  
Independent Sector  
Information Technology Exchange  
InnovateEDU  
Institute for Higher Education Policy

Institute for Intellectual Property & Social Justice  
Institute for Local Self-Reliance  
International Society for Technology in Education  
Internet Society  
Island Institute  
Japanese American Citizens League  
Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies  
Latino Network  
Low Income Utility Advocacy Project  
Marconi Society  
Maryland Alliance of Public Charter Schools  
Media Alliance  
MediaJustice  
Merit Network, Inc.  
Mobile Citizen  
mohuman  
Montana Organizing Project  
MORE  
Mountain Connect  
Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council (MMTC)  
MuralNet  
NAACP  
National Center for Learning Disabilities  
National Consumer Law Center, on behalf of its low-income clients  
National Cristina Foundation  
National Digital Inclusion Alliance  
National Hispanic Media Coalition  
National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance  
National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance (NQAPIA)  
National Skills Coalition  
National Summer Learning Association  
National Urban League  
Native Public Media, Inc.  
New America Education Policy Program  
New America's Open Technology Institute  
New Hampshire Society for Technology in Education (NHSTE)  
Nostos Charity  
NTEN  
OCA - Asian Pacific American Advocates  
Open Signal: Portland Community Media  
Oregon Citizens' Utility Board  
Palmetto Care Connections  
Partners Bridging the Digital Divide

PCs for People Baltimore  
Pennsylvania Mountains Healthcare Resource Development  
Pennsylvania Utility Law Project, on behalf of our low income clients  
PhillyCAM  
Project Appleseed  
Public Knowledge  
R Street Institute  
Right Here, Right Now Project  
ROANEnet  
Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition  
Schuylkill Women in Crisis  
South Carolina Office of Rural Health  
St. Paul Community Literacy Consortium  
State Educational Technology Directors Association  
Success Against All Odds  
Tech Goes Home  
Tech:NYC  
Technology For All  
Temple University - WELL Program  
The Education Trust  
The Hunt Institute  
The Mann Center for the Performing Arts  
United Church of Christ, OC Inc.  
United Communities Southeast Philadelphia  
United Neighborhood Centers  
Utah Center for Civic Improvement  
VALUEUSA  
Vermont Mutual Aid Society  
Vietnamese Social Services  
Virginia Citizens Consumer Council  
Virginia Society for Technology in Education  
Voqal  
Women's Resource Center  
World Education, Inc.  
Writers Guild of America West  
X-Lab

### **Schools and Libraries**

Boulder Valley School District  
California Center for Rural Policy  
Cheektowaga Public Library  
Dunkirk Public Library

Free Library of Philadelphia  
Gigabit Libraries Network  
LEARN: Lonestar Education and Research Network  
Multnomah Education Service District  
NASPA - Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education  
Niagara Falls Public Library  
Northeast Kansas Library System  
Portland Community College  
Providence Public Library  
PSTV - Education Channel of the School District of Philadelphia  
Sonoma County Library  
St. Bonaventure University  
State Higher Education Executive Officers Association  
Western New York Library Resources Council  
Ysleta Independent School District