

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 19, 2021

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
The President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

Thank you for continuing to work toward a bipartisan infrastructure package that will deliver critical resources and jobs to our communities across the country. We share your goal of 100% connectivity for all, which must include targeting federal investment to ensure the hardest to reach areas get broadband service and offering financial support for families in need to help them purchase internet service in the same way we provide support for school lunches or groceries. The American Jobs Plan provides us with the ability to chart a new course that can finally close the digital divide for those who have been on the sidelines of remote learning, working, and telehealth for far too long.

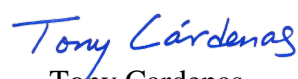
Too many of our constituents live in parts of our states and districts with no broadband service at all. It is essential that funds included in an infrastructure package reach all households and businesses that lack even a bare minimum of service to ensure that we bring broadband to the hardest to reach and currently unserved locations. We also must ensure requirements are flexible enough to allow a variety of future proof technologies to be considered.

We agree that all Americans deserve high-quality and reliable broadband. Many individuals and families may have access to broadband service but for a variety of reasons – in addition to cost – may not have adopted the critical technology. Congress' recently authorized Emergency Broadband Benefit program was an important first step, but now is the time to create a permanent, federally funded broadband benefit program to ensure financially vulnerable families get the help they need to connect to the internet and the opportunity it brings. By providing a permanent benefit we can ensure they are empowered with a choice to pick the service that best fits their needs, while also promoting competition.

We have an opportunity in the upcoming infrastructure package to solve these long-standing challenges with smart, targeted investments in broadband that will benefit rural, urban, and suburban areas alike. Now is the time to act to connect every household to the 21st century economy. We look forward to working with you to achieve this goal.

Sincerely,


G. K. Butterfield
Member of Congress


Tony Cardenas
Member of Congress


Scott Peters
Member of Congress


Kathleen Rice
Member of Congress

/s/

Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.
Member of Congress

/s/

Pete Aguilar
Member of Congress

/s/

Colin Allred
Member of Congress

/s/

Cindy Axne
Member of Congress

/s/

Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress

/s/

Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress

/s/

Lisa Blunt Rochester
Member of Congress

/s/

Jamaal Bowman
Member of Congress

/s/

Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress

/s/

Anthony G. Brown
Member of Congress

/s/

Julia Brownley
Member of Congress

/s/

Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress

/s/

Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress

/s/

Troy A. Carter, Sr.
Member of Congress

/s/

Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress

/s/

Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress

/s/

Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress

/s/

David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress

/s/

Steve Cohen
Member of Congress

/s/

Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress

/s/

Jim Cooper
Member of Congress

/s/

J. Luis Correa
Member of Congress

/s/

Jim Costa
Member of Congress

/s/

Henry Cuellar
Member of Congress

/s/

Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress

/s/

Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress

/s/

Diana Degette
Member of Congress

/s/

Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress

/s/

Antonio Delgado
Member of Congress

/s/

Val Butler Demings
Member of Congress

/s/

Theodore E. Deutch
Member of Congress

/s/

Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress

/s/

Veronica Escobar
Member of Congress

/s/

Anna S. Eshoo
Member of Congress

/s/

Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress

/s/

Dwight Evans
Member of Congress

/s/

Lizzie Fletcher
Member of Congress

/s/

Bill Foster
Member of Congress

/s/

Ruben Gallego
Member of Congress

/s/

Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress

/s/

Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress

/s/

Vicente Gonzalez
Member of Congress

/s/

Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress

/s/

Raul M. Grijalva
Member of Congress

/s/

Josh Harder
Member of Congress

/s/

Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress

/s/

Brian Higgins
Member of Congress

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Jim Himes
Member of Congress

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Chrissy Houlahan
Member of Congress

/s/

Steven Horsford
Member of Congress

/s/

Jared Huffman
Member of Congress

/s/

Sara Jacobs
Member of Congress

/s/

Eddie Bernice Johnson
Member of Congress

/s/

Henry C. "Hank" Johnson Jr.
Member of Congress

/s/

Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress

/s/

William R. Keating
Member of Congress

/s/

Derek Kilmer
Member of Congress

/s/

Andy Kim
Member of Congress

/s/

Ron Kind
Member of Congress

/s/

Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress

/s/

Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress

/s/

Brenda L. Lawrence
Member of Congress

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Al Lawson
Member of Congress

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Susie Lee
Member of Congress

/s/

Teresa Leger Fernández
Member of Congress

/s/

Andy Levin
Member of Congress

/s/

Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress

/s/

Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress

/s/

Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress

/s/

Tom Malinowski
Member of Congress

/s/

Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress

/s/

Kathy Manning
Member of Congress

/s/

Doris Matsui
Member of Congress

/s/

A. Donald McEachin
Member of Congress

/s/

Gregory W. Meeks
Member of Congress

/s/

Kweisi Mfume
Member of Congress

/s/

Joseph D. Morelle
Member of Congress

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Joe Neguse
Member of Congress

/s/

Donald Norcross
Member of Congress

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Tom O'Halleran
Member of Congress

/s/

Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress

/s/

Chris Pappas
Member of Congress

/s/

Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress

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Donald M. Payne, Jr.
Member of Congress

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Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress

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Stacey E. Plaskett
Member of Congress

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David Price
Member of Congress

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Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress

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Deborah Ross
Member of Congress

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Lucille Roybal-Allard
Member of Congress

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Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress

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Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress

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Linda T. Sanchez
Member of Congress

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Mary Gay Scanlon
Member of Congress

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Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress

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Bradley S. Schneider
Member of Congress

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Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress

/s/

Mikie Sherrill
Member of Congress

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Albio Sires
Member of Congress

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Darren Soto
Member of Congress

/s/

Marilyn Strickland
Member of Congress

/s/

Thomas R. Suozzi
Member of Congress

/s/

Mark Takano
Member of Congress

/s/

Dina Titus
Member of Congress

/s/

Bennie Thompson
Member of Congress

/s/

Mike Thompson
Member of Congress

/s/

Paul Tonko
Member of Congress

/s/

Norma Torres
Member of Congress

/s/

Juan Vargas
Member of Congress

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Marc A. Veasey
Member of Congress

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Filemon Vela
Member of Congress

/s/

Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress

/s/

Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress

/s/

Jennifer Wexton
Member of Congress

/s/

Nikema Williams
Member of Congress

/s/

Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress