

1 RESOLUTION BY THE FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO  
2 ACKNOWLEDGE THE IMPORTANCE OF DIGITAL EQUITY; TO URGE THE U.S.  
3 CONGRESS TO RENEW OR EXTEND THE AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY  
4 PROGRAM (ACP) THROUGH 2024 SO THAT ALL QUALIFYING HOUSEHOLDS IN  
5 FULTON COUNTY, GEORGIA WILL HAVE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE HIGH-SPEED  
6 INTERNET SERVICE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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8 WHEREAS, equity in education, in healthcare, in the workforce, and in all aspects  
9 of modern life is only achievable if you have a computer, an internet connection, and  
10 digital skills; and

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12 WHEREAS, the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) was enacted through the  
13 bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 to make high-speed internet  
14 plans more affordable for consumers and to encourages internet service providers (ISPs)  
15 to invest in more communities; and

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17 WHEREAS, ISPs that receive federal infrastructure deployment funds are  
18 mandated to participate in ACP so that future customers will not be priced out of those  
19 new connections; and

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21 WHEREAS, ACP has provided \$14.2 billion in support since its inception, allowing  
22 over 20 Million American households to benefit from ACP, including 625,000 households  
23 in Georgia and 65,797 households in Fulton County; and

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25 WHEREAS, approximately 15% of Fulton County households risk disconnection  
26 from their internet service if ACP is not to continue, leaving families without access to  
27 healthcare services, school programming, and workforce opportunities; and

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29 WHEREAS, polls have shown that over 75% of voters support funding for ACP,  
30 including overwhelming support across political ideologies; and

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32 WHEREAS, unless Congress acts to renew or extend ACP, its funds will be  
33 exhausted by spring 2024, leaving millions of Americans without affordable access to  
34 internet service; and

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36 WHEREAS, without ACP, American tax dollars will be supporting the growth of for-  
37 profit ISPs with no public benefit; and

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39 WHEREAS, on January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024, the Federal Communications Commission  
40 announced that they will wind down the ACP program and will stop accepting new  
41 enrollments on February 7, 2024, unless Congress appropriates additional funding.

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43 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fulton County Board of  
44 Commissioners acknowledges the importance of digital equity for its citizens.

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**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners hereby urges the U.S. Congress to renew or extend the Affordable Connectivity Program through 2024, so that all qualifying households in Fulton County, Georgia will have access to affordable high-speed internet service.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Clerk to the Commission is hereby authorized and directed upon passage of this Resolution to send copies of this Resolution to the Georgia Congressional Delegation, the Chairpersons and ranking members of the House and Senate Appropriations committees.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that this Resolution shall become effective upon its adoption and that all resolutions and parts of resolutions in conflict with this Resolution are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.


**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Commissioners of Fulton County, Georgia, this 24<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2024.

**FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**SPONSORED BY:**


  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dana Barrett, Commissioner (District 3)

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tonya R. Grier  
Clerk to the Commission



APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Y. Soo Jo  
County Attorney

ITEM # 24-0067 RCS 24/24  
RECESS MEETING