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# INVESTING IN AMERICA

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## **Biden Administration Calls on Congressional Republicans to Extend Funding for Affordable Connectivity Program, Help Over 6,700 Virgin Islands Households Continue to Save Money on High-Speed Internet**

High-speed internet is necessary for Americans to participate in school, do their jobs, access health care, and stay connected. But too many Americans can't afford the cost of a monthly connection, if they have access to a connection at all. To change that, President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law launched the Affordable Connectivity Program, the largest internet affordability program in our nation's history.

The Affordable Connectivity Program has helped over 23 million households across the country save \$30-\$75 each per month on their monthly internet bills. **In the Virgin Islands, 6,780 households – 1 in 6 households in the territory – have saved money on their internet bills because of the Affordable Connectivity Program.** And, because the Biden-Harris Administration worked with internet providers to offer high-speed internet plans that are fully covered by the Affordable Connectivity Program, many working families in the Virgin Islands have been getting high-speed internet for *free*.

**But if Congressional Republicans fail to act, thousands of Virgin Islands families could lose access to affordable, high-speed internet at the end of this month.**

Since October, President Biden has been calling on Congress to pass legislation that would extend this benefit through 2024. Democratic Members of Congress have joined him in this effort. The President also included funding for this essential program in his 2025 budget request. The Biden-Harris Administration is once again calling on Congressional Republicans to join their Democratic colleagues and extend funding for the Affordable Connectivity Program, so millions of their own constituents don't lose access to affordable, high speed internet next month. Without action, families may lose access to education, health care, job opportunities, and more.

In Virgin Islands:

- **Enrollment to date:** 6,780 Virgin Islands households are enrolled in the Affordable Connectivity Program. That's about 1 in 6 households in the territory.
- **Funding to date:** The Virgin Islands has received \$2,641,627 in funding from the Affordable Connectivity Program. That means Virgin Islands families have been saving \$162,000 total each month on their internet bills.