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For Immediate Release

FCC COMMITS ANOTHER \$86 MILLION IN EMERGENCY CONNECTIVITY FUNDING TO SUPPORT STUDENTS AND LIBRARIES AND HELP CLOSE THE HOMEWORK GAP

Program to Date Has Committed Over \$4.6 Billion to Support More Than 12 Million Students and Over 900 Libraries

WASHINGTON, February 23, 2022—The Federal Communications Commission today announced that it is committing over \$86 million in the 10th wave of Emergency Connectivity Fund program support. Since its June 2021 launch, the program has committed over \$4.62 billion supporting all 50 states, Guam, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the District of Columbia. This latest round of funding will support over 240,000 students and provide funding for over 350 schools, 29 libraries and 8 consortia, which are approved to receive over 239,000 connected devices and over 96,000 broadband connections.

"The Emergency Connectivity Fund is the single biggest effort to close the Homework Gap, and connect students and libraries with reliable broadband service," **said Chairwoman Rosenworcel.** "The need for help is clear, and we're making progress. Since the program opened last June, thousands of schools and libraries signed up, and we are now providing funding for over 10 million connected devices and over 5 million broadband connections throughout the country."

To ensure that ECF recipients get the full benefit of the equipment and services requested, the Wireline Competition Bureau adopted an <u>order</u> yesterday extending the date by which beneficiaries must use the funding by one year to June 30, 2023.

The funding can be used to support off-campus learning, such as nightly homework, to ensure students across the country have the necessary support to keep up with their education. Total commitments to date are supporting over 11,000 schools, 900 libraries, and 130 consortia for over 10 million connected devices and over 5 million broadband connections. Today's announcement includes over \$30 million in commitments from Window 1 applications and nearly \$56 million in commitments from Window 2 applications.

More details about which schools and libraries have received funding commitments can be found at https://www.fcc.gov/emergency-connectivity-fund.

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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).