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For Immediate Release

STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER GEOFFREY STARKS ON INTRODUCTION OF THE AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM EXTENSION ACT

WASHINGTON, January 10, 2023—FCC Commissioner Geoffrey Starks issued the following statement on the introduction of the *Affordable Connectivity Program Extension Act*:

"The Affordable Connectivity Program is helping over 22 million households here in America get online, stay online, and secure the opportunities that only broadband can deliver in the 21st-century. Rural, urban, and native Americans alike have come to rely on the ACP as part of their vibrant future. That's why I first <u>called for action</u> to sustain ACP funding back in March of 2023, and applauded President Biden's decision to <u>include ACP funding</u> in his domestic supplemental request this past October. It's also why I'm thrilled to support the bipartisan and bicameral *Affordable Connectivity Program Extension Act*, which would keep ACP funded through a \$7 billion appropriation.

I thank Representatives Clarke, Fitzpatrick, Torres, Dingell, Soto, Lawler, D'Esposito, and Molinaro, and Senators Welch, Vance, Rosen, and Cramer for their leadership on this critical issue. Momentum behind sustaining ACP continues to build, and millions of Americans are counting on us to find a solution. Let's get it done."

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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).