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**COMMISSIONER STARKS JOINS EVENT WITH THE LEAD SPONSOR OF THE
AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM EXTENSION ACT**

New York City, New York, March 18, 2024—On Monday, March 18, 2024, FCC Commissioner Geoffrey Starks urged action to continue the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP).

The event was held on the steps of City Hall in New York City, New York. It was convened by Congresswoman Yvette Clarke (NY-09) and featured remarks from Commissioner Starks and FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel, along with Congresswoman Grace Meng (NY-06) and a number of housing, labor, and broadband equity advocates from organizations like the National Urban League, Public Knowledge, NYCLU, and the Communications Workers of America Local 1101.

Commissioner Starks issued the following statement about the event:

“I was thrilled to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with Congresswoman Clarke to raise awareness of the urgent need to refund the Affordable Connectivity Program and to support the Affordable Connectivity Plan Extension Act. Over the past month, I’ve hit the road to meet and learn from ACP participants in Nevada, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, New Jersey, and now New York. At every stop, I hear about how ACP has changed lives for the better by helping Americans start a business, access better health care, stay connected with friends, family, and faith, and keep our young folks engaged in school and on top of their homework. These families also continue to share stories about the impossible challenges they will face if we allow their ACP benefits to lapse due to inaction. And for every story I hear, you can bet there are thousands more just like them all across the country. Over 23 million American households stand on the precipice of losing access to a vital program. We must act now to refund ACP.

“I’d like to thank Congresswoman Clarke for her leadership and tenacious advocacy for ACP and the millions of Americans who depend on the program. In addition to her resolve and determination, the Congresswoman continues to offer real solutions – like the bipartisan, bicameral Affordable Connectivity Program Extension Act that she sponsored.”

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