THE BENEFITS OF A CONNECTED AMERICA

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To ensure that all Americans have access to resources that can help them thrive in a digital world, Congress must focus on expanding access to broadband internet and work to close the digital divides. Expanding broadband internet access connects people and information across the world, opening up previously unavailable economic, educational, and health care opportunities for Americans – particularly among those with limited access communities.

In order to achieve this goal, we must focus on:

Jobs: Connecting businesses and workers to new markets and economies, opening up a world of opportunities. We must prioritize reliable, high-speed internet, to support business and entrepreneur innovations whether they are in Albuquerque or Harlem. We must be able to ensure all businesses can utilize high-speed broadband to create greater economic successes.

Education: Expanding learning opportunities to students of all ages. High-speed internet has transformed the way education is delivered in schools across the country, opening up new learning opportunities outside of brick and mortar schools. These experiments offer promise to millions of Americans that do not live near a community college or training center, have difficulty leaving their homes, or have to balance the pursuit of education with their work and family responsibilities. We must expand these opportunities to reach students every student.

Health Care: Providing vital health services to patients by harnessing high-speed internet services. High-speed internet aids the development of emerging virtual telehealth services, which offer an opportunity for many of these Americans to access critical health care services that might otherwise be prohibitively out of reach. Already, telehealth is connecting Americans to vital health services, particularly those in rural areas of the country where the nearest doctor or medical facility can be hours away. We must now capture the opportunity and promise telehealth presents to improve their access to quality care and lower cost.