STATEMENT OF THE EDUCATION & LIBRARIES NETWORKS COALITION ON FCC ANNOUNCEMENT OF EMERGENCY CONNECTIVITY FUND DEMAND AND SECOND APPLICATION WINDOW

Today's announcement by the FCC of the extremely high demand for funding to ensure that students, educators, and library patrons are connected in their homes is proof positive of the significant need for the $7.17 billion which Congress approved for the Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) – and compelling evidence that more support is needed. Even with this initial 45-day ECF application window open during the height of summer, when schools were in recess and many Americans were on vacation, schools and libraries still applied for $5.1 billion or more than 70% of ECF funds available. We fully expect that the remaining $2 billion in ECF support will be spoken for during the forthcoming second application window. Therefore, we feel it is imperative that Congress include Senator Markey's and Representative Meng's SUCCESS Act within the Budget Reconciliation Act to replenish ECF funding and ensure that America's students, educators, and library patrons are not disconnected when this first tranche of ECF funding runs dry.

EdLiNC's Members:

AASA, The School Superintendents Association
American Federation of School Administrators
American Federation of Teachers
American Library Association
Association of Educational Service Agencies
Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents
Association of School Business Officials International
Council of Chief State School Officers
International Society for Technology in Education
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association for Pupil Transportation
National Association of Secondary School Principals
National Association of State Boards of Education
National Catholic Educational Association
National Education Association
National Rural Education Advocacy Consortium
National Rural Education Association
National School Boards Association
State Educational Technology Directors Association