

October 5, 2022

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Chairwoman  
The Honorable Brendan Carr, Commissioner  
The Honorable Geoffrey Starks, Commissioner  
The Honorable Nathan Simington, Commissioner

Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street NE  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: Addressing the Urgent Need to Combat Cyber Security Threats at Schools by Leveraging E-Rate and Other Federal Funds

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Commissioners:

On behalf of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce representing more than 1,400 companies and small business owners in Los Angeles, I join the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) in requesting the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) immediately authorize the ongoing, permanent use of existing E-Rate Program funds to bolster and maintain IT security infrastructure. The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce strongly supports the necessary funding and tools to support LAUSD and local educational institutions.

Currently, LAUSD and regional school districts are fighting increasingly sophisticated cyberattacks and their aftermath with funding meant to be used for meeting the instructional and socio-emotional needs of our students. We feel that supporting cybersecurity tools through the E-Rate program is not only appropriate under the FCC's existing goals for Universal Service, but also has reached a critical point as illustrated by the scope of the attack on LAUSD. Without this E-Rate Program, critical dollars meant for education and preparing our youth to become the workforce and entrepreneurs of tomorrow are at risk of displacement to keep their digital learning environment functioning and safe.

It is essential that the FCC immediately examine the E-Rate program for opportunities to allow for the use of E-Rate funds to bolster and maintain IT security infrastructure. The collaboration of state, federal, and local programs will help safeguard against future attacks and protect against further disruptions to classroom education. If you have any questions, please contact Cameron Gil, Senior Public Policy Manager, at [cgil@lachamber.com](mailto:cgil@lachamber.com).

Sincerely,



Maria S. Salinas  
President & CEO