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Federal Communications Commission
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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).

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CHAIRMAN KENNARD HONORED BY EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY THINK TANK

Washington, D.C. -- William E. Kennard, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), was presented with the Education Technology Think Tank's TEC (Technology to Empower Communities) Special Leadership Award on September 15, 2000. This award is presented annually to that person in government who has been an outstanding leader in addressing "America's emerging cyber-civilization."

The TEC award was presented to Chairman Kennard by Rep. Major Owens (D-NY), who said, "Bill Kennard has used his position as Chairman of the FCC to shape our country's public policy to ensure that America's youth have access to the high tech tools of the information revolution."

Dr. Ronnie Lowenstein, President of the Education Technology Think Tank, said, "Chairman Kennard, particularly through his commitment to the E-rate program to wire our schools and libraries to the Internet, has inspired and empowered all our country's young people to take their place in this high tech world."

Chairman Kennard said, "I share this award with many who were instrumental in making the E-rate program a reality: Vice President Al Gore, my predecessor and former FCC Chairman Reed Hundt, and the bi-partisan coalition in Congress that incorporated the E-rate in the Telecommunications Act of 1996, including Senators Rockefeller, Snowe, Kerrey, and Congressman Markey. I also want to thank Congressman Owens for his continuing commitment to eliminating a division of our country into information haves and have-nots. The E-rate is one of the most successful ways to address the digital divide and provide all American children access to the tools they need to compete in the global information age economy. In less than three years, the E-rate program has wired 95% of the nation's schools -- and over one million classrooms -- to the Internet."

The Education Technology Think Tank (ET3) is a national collaborative of business, civic, and government sector representatives committed to harnessing technology and telecommunications for economic and education empowerment of traditionally underserved communities.