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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. Circ 1974).

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Statement of FCC Chairman Michael Powell on Senator McCain's Telecommunications Ownership Diversification Initiative

Senator John McCain today introduced legislation that uses a tax-based incentive system, designed to encourage and facilitate new entry, including entry by women and minorities, into the telecommunications industry. This legislation is well crafted and much needed. I wholeheartedly support this effort

I again thank Senator McCain for consistently showing leadership in this important effort. Like him, I believe it is essential that we promote greater inclusiveness in our media and communications delivery sectors.

The time for rhetoric complaining about lack of opportunity in the communications sector has past. It is time for action. It is time to seek positive ways to promote opportunity while avoiding some of the problems of past programs. This legislation is a clear step in the right direction.