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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. Circ 1974).

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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STATEMENT OF FCC COMMISSIONERS MICHAEL J. COPPS, KEVIN J. MARTIN, AND JONATHAN S. ADELSTEIN ON THE D.C. CIRCUIT'S DECISION TO ELIMINATE THE FCC'S RULES

We are disappointed in the Court's decision to eliminate the Commission's rules requiring incumbent carriers to open their legacy voice networks to competition. We believe that the rules preserve competition in a manner that is lawful, and recognize the important role that states have historically played.

Today over 50 million Americans benefit from the new local and long distance one-rate plans offered by both incumbents and competitors that are a result of our rules.

In the past, the Supreme Court has made clear that the FCC has significant discretion in ensuring that the local telephone markets are open to competition. We have instructed our General Counsel to seek a stay and to appeal the D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court so that we can clarify tension with the Supreme Court's past decisions.

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