

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER JONATHAN S. ADELSTEIN**

Re: Local Telephone Competition and Broadband Reporting; Local Competition and Broadband Reporting, Order (2004).

I am pleased to support this Order which extends and enhances the Commission's data gathering efforts into the status of broadband deployment and local competition. Congress directed this Commission to ensure that all Americans have reasonable and timely access to advanced telecommunications capability, such as broadband services, and this effort is of critical importance to the health of our economy and our quality of life. Having a comprehensive, reliable, and accurate understanding about the state of broadband deployment is a critical part of our efforts to promote the availability of broadband services to all Americans. Simply put, better information about the state of the market makes for better decisions by policymakers.

The Commission's data collection program has provided useful data on broadband and local telephone subscribership for the past four years. I'm pleased that this Order will give us a more nuanced view into the types of broadband services that consumers are purchasing and a more complete picture of broadband deployment in rural areas. I am also glad that Commission also directs the Bureau to address flexibly the well-acknowledged limitations of the zip code data, through surveys, samplings, or other means. While I have reservations about extending reporting requirements to smaller providers, I am glad that the Commission is committing to conduct outreach to small businesses and is working in a coordinated fashion with the Small Business Administration on this effort.