



# NEWS

**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).

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**CHAIRMAN KEVIN J. MARTIN  
CONGRATULATES COMMISSIONER DEBORAH TAYLOR TATE  
ON HER APPOINTMENT TO SERVE AS FEDERAL CHAIR OF THE FEDERAL-  
STATE JOINT BOARDS ON UNIVERSAL SERVICE AND JURISDICTIONAL  
SEPARATIONS**

Washington, D.C. – Today, the Federal Communications Commission voted to appoint Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate to both serve on and act as Federal Chair of the Federal-State Joint Boards on Universal Service and Jurisdictional Separations. The Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service was established in March 1996 to make recommendations to implement the universal service provisions of the Act. The Federal-State Joint Board on Jurisdictional Separations has existed since 1980 in order to properly allocate common carrier property and expenses between interstate and intrastate operations. These Joint Boards are comprised of FCC Commissioners, State Utility Commissioners, and the Joint Board on Universal Service includes a consumer advocate representative.

Regarding her appointment, Chairman Martin said, “I am extremely pleased that Commissioner Tate will serve on these important Federal-State Joint Boards. Both universal service and separations are critical components of the framework set forth by Congress and, based on her experience as an effective state commissioner, I am confident that she will provide strong leadership and will vigorously pursue the goals set forth in the Act, including the provision of quality telecommunications services at reasonable rates throughout the nation.”

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