

**STATEMENT OF
CHAIRMAN KEVIN J. MARTIN**

Re: *Implementation of the Telecommunications Act of 1996; Petition for Rulemaking to Enhance Security and Authentication Standards for Access to Customer Proprietary Network Information, CC Docket No. 96-115, RM-11277*

With this Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, we ask how we can better protect customers' private telephone records from unauthorized disclosure. This item responds directly to the petition filed with the Commission by the Electronic Privacy Information Center (EPIC). In its Petition, EPIC expresses concerns about the sufficiency of carrier practices relating to customer proprietary network information (CPNI) in light of numerous reports that online "data brokers" and private investigators are engaged in the sale of customers' personal telephone records. EPIC claims that these data brokers are obtaining unauthorized access to CPNI through various possible means, including through "pretexting" – that is, by pretending to be a customer seeking access to that customer's own telephone records. Today, we seek comment on whether additional Commission rules are necessary to strengthen the safeguards currently in place to protect consumers' sensitive telephone record data. I support this Notice because I am deeply concerned about reports of companies trafficking in personal telephone records and I want to thank my fellow Commissioners for considering this Notice expeditiously.