



# NEWS

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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. Cir. 1974).

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## STATEMENT OF FCC COMMISSIONER JESSICA ROSENWORCEL ON PEW RESEARCH CENTER HOMEWORK GAP FINDINGS

Washington, D.C. – Today, the Pew Research Center released [findings](#) regarding school-aged children and broadband access at home that is increasingly necessary to complete basic schoolwork. In response, Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel stated:

“I am pleased that the Pew Research Center has done the math and drawn attention to what I call the ‘Homework Gap.’<sup>1</sup>

“There was a time when doing basic schoolwork required no more than a little bit of quiet, a clear workspace, and a pencil. No more. Today, 7 in 10 teachers assign homework that requires Internet access. Kids may be connected in the classroom, but if they are disconnected at home getting basic schoolwork done is hard. Researching a paper and applying for scholarships and jobs is tough without reliable broadband access. But as the Pew Research Center demonstrates, five million American families with students at home go without regular broadband access – and fall into the Homework Gap. This is the cruelest part of the new digital divide. We need to bridge this gap and fix this problem because our shared economic future depends on it.”

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<sup>1</sup> See, e.g., Jessica Rosenworcel, *How to Close the ‘Homework Gap,’* MIAMI HERALD (Dec. 5, 2014), <http://transition.fcc.gov/files/documents/how-close-to-the-homework-gap-rosenworcel-editorial.pdf>; Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner, FCC, Address at the Texas Computer Education Association (Feb. 4, 2015), <http://www.fcc.gov/document/rosenworcel-remarks-texas-computer-education-association>; Jessica Rosenworcel, *Limited Internet Access a Challenge for Detroit Kids*, DETROIT FREE PRESS (Mar. 16, 2015), <http://transition.fcc.gov/files/documents/internet-access-a-challenge-for-detroit-kids-rosenworcel-editorial.pdf>.