STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER MICHAEL O'RIELLY

Re: Rules and Policies Regarding Calling Number Identification Service – Caller ID; Waiver of Federal Communications Commission Regulations at 47 C.F.R. § 64.1601(b) on Behalf of Jewish Community Centers, CC Docket No. 91-281

The substantial increase in the number of threatening calls to schools, religious organizations, and other entities since 2011 is appalling. At the same time, the Commission must be mindful of the valid privacy interests of callers who may choose to block caller ID to protect themselves or others from real harms. The Notice before us today appears to strike the right balance. It would apply only to calls that include a threat of serious and imminent unlawful action posing a substantial risk to property, life, safety, or health. And, it would limit access to caller ID information to threatened parties, law enforcement, and security personnel. At my suggestion, the item now seeks comment on how to define security personnel to ensure that it is an appropriate set of professionals. I thank the Chairman for working with me on this Notice and I vote to approve.