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**For Immediate Release**

**COMMISSIONER CLYBURN STATEMENT  
ON INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO FACILITATE PIPELINE OF  
SPECTRUM FOR COMMERCIAL USE**

WASHINGTON, August 1, 2017 – The following statement can be attributed to FCC Commissioner Mignon Clyburn:

“I applaud today’s bipartisan introduction of the *Advancing Innovation and Reinvigorating Widespread Access to Viable Electromagnetic Spectrum Act* (‘AIRWAVES Act’).

Senators Gardner and Hassan rightly highlight the need for a ‘comprehensive, technology-neutral spectrum policy that includes licensed, unlicensed, and shared use of spectrum bands.’

“Ensuring that we have a steady pipeline of spectrum to meet the country’s growing need for wireless broadband is vital to our ability to remain on the cutting edge of innovation, promote entrepreneurship, and enable communities to harness the opportunities of broadband. Notably, the bill directs the Commission to study how unlicensed spectrum can be harnessed to meet the needs of rural communities, especially with regard to healthcare, distance learning and agriculture. I am also pleased that the bill proposes that 10 percent of competitive bidding proceeds be set aside for deployment of wireless infrastructure in underserved and unserved areas.

“I stand ready to work with my colleagues and members of Congress to ensure that all Americans, no matter where they live, can take advantage of the opportunities of a fully connected nation.”

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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).*