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**For Immediate Release**

**CHAIRMAN PAI STATEMENT ON THE DEATH OF  
FORMER SENATOR PETE DOMENICI**

WASHINGTON, September 13, 2017 – Federal Communications Commission Chairman Ajit Pai issued the following statement today on the death of former U.S. Senator Pete Domenici of New Mexico:

“I was saddened to learn of the death of Senator Pete Domenici. Senator Domenici left a lasting impact in so many areas of public policy and law. For example, as a key Senate Budget Committee expert, he saw the potential of spectrum auctions and helped engineer the compromise in the Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, which gave the FCC the authority to conduct such auctions. As Budget Committee Chairman in 1997, he drafted and shepherded the Balanced Budget Act, which greatly expanded the auctions program. Thereafter, he actively supported the Commission's work in this area. All this makes Senator Domenici's legacy in communications policy a rich one: he helped pave the way for the mobile revolution that continues to this day and enabled the FCC to deliver substantial funds to the Treasury for deficit reduction and other purposes. And not least, he was a kind and decent man, as I learned firsthand during my time as a Senate staffer.

“I would like to extend my sympathies to Senator Domenici's family, and in particular, his daughter Helen, whom I had the privilege to work with when she served as Chief of the FCC's International Bureau.”

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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).*