

**STATEMENT OF
CHAIRMAN AJIT PAI**

Re: *Nationwide Number Portability*, WC Docket No. 17-244; *Numbering Policies for Modern Communications*, WC Docket No. 13-97.

In his classic 1981 anthem, Tommy Tutone begs, “Jenny, don’t change your number. 867-5309.”¹ Unfortunately for Tommy, if Jenny today wanted to switch her service to certain smaller, non-nationwide carriers, she very well might not be able to keep her phone number.

But today we begin considering ways to change that. We propose removing outdated rules that may impede so-called nationwide number portability. And we start to explore how to support greater choice by letting a consumer keep her number no matter the carrier she chooses. This will help everyone benefit from competition.

Thanks to the dedicated staff for their efforts: Bill Andrie, Ken Carlberg, Terry Cavanaugh, Alex Espinoza, Heather Hendrickson, Dan Kahn, Rick Mallen, Timothy May, Kris Monteith, Claudia Pabo, Sherwin Siy, Jerome Stanshine, and Ann Stevens.

¹ Tommy Tutone, 867-5309/Jenny, *Tommy Tutone 2*, Columbia Records, 1981.